January 23rd—29th, 1986, No. 3 75¢

THE Fisherman

LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION

Sportsman's Expo January 22-26

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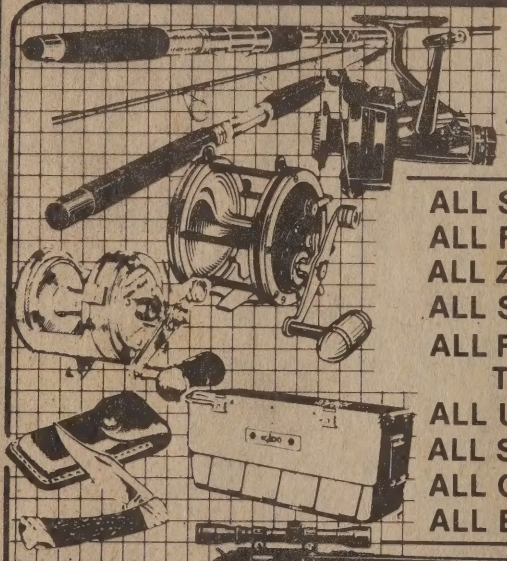

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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

Volume 21, Number 3 January 23rd, 1986

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Just to prove that Fisherman staffers aren't duffers, Tim Coleman, who handles the editing chores for our New England Edition, went out and beached this 67 pound striper last November. Taken from the Rhode Island surf, the big cow fell for a homemade, single hook needlefish plug. Cover photo by Mary Motherway.

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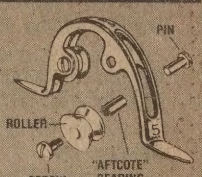

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EDITORIAL

FALL BASS RUN GOOD: DON'T BE FOOLED

Without doubt, this fall saw one of the best runs of bass in recent memory. Things got cooking at Montauk early in the fall, but by the end of November, bass from shorts to 50 pounds were being caught along virtually all south shore beaches. The boats had good innings too, both outside in the ocean and in the inlets. Bass remained available in quantity at Montauk well into December.

There might be a temptation to expound upon the revitalization of East Coast stocks of striped bass in the face of this excellent fall run. Certainly the commercial fishermen have already picked up the gauntlet. In adition to repeated published comments from commercial haul seiners and trap fishermen that conservation measures should be eased, one local paper wrote, "Why are the stringent conservation measures ahead needed if catches have been larger than seen in years?"

It isn't just commercial fishermen who are clamoring for a relaxation of striped bass management measures. Recreational anglers have also pointed to this year's good fall run as a sign that conservation can be eased.

However, we must alert ourselves to relevant facts about overall striped bass fishing, management strategies, and local perturbations in abundance. We mustn't be fooled by a local and perhaps temporary abundance. Remember a few years back when it was tougher to catch a bass on Long Island than to find teeth in a chicken? Remember how up in Cape Cod they were setting records with striped bass catches. I hope you remember, because many of you trekked to the Cape, to Mecca, in the hope of duplicating the feat of so many Massachusetts children and senior citizens with five foot rods, and succeeded in a lifelong dream: to catch the elusive 50 pounder. Should we have denied at that time that striped bass were in trouble? Many in Massachusetts did deny it, but on Long Island we didn't need to be convinced that striped bass stocks needed strict management. What has changed? Nothing has changed.

We should be delighted that existing management strategies have saved some bass so that their presence in our surf this fall could have an impact. We should be happy that conservation of the 1982 year class has put some shorts into our waters. We should be thrilled that the existing meager conservation measures have helped a little, and perhaps averted a disaster that otherwise appeared to be a certainty looming on the horizon.

Should we fold our conservation tents now because we see a little evidence of improvement? Do that and the stocks will be in worse shape by 1987 than they were in 1983. Do that and we eliminate the chance for a respectable recreational bass fishery through the end of this decade. Do that and we'll be putting a few bucks in the hands of a few people and that's all we'll accomplish. That's a price that is too high just to put a few more fish on the stringer.

We still have lots of work ahead of us with respect to striped bass management and ecology. For one thing we need to continue measures that will reduce the level of PCBs and other toxic chemicals in striped bass both for the fish and human consumers. We need to remember that the 1982 year class was not spectacular and that's been the best in over a decade. Most spawns have been terrible. We need to continue research to find out why, so we can correct these conditions, thus encouraging striped bass to better spawning. We need to study pollution phenomena in the Chesapeake, and we need to conserve the existing stocks. Finally, we need to consider the needs of humans who enjoy the species and perhaps rely on it. There may be some room to help out some in this arena. *But*, and this is a big BUT—not at the expense of further reductions in the East Coast stocks of striped bass. On the contrary, the first order of business must be to permit, encourage, and support the growth of the striped bass stocks.

Scientists are busily addressing this topic and they hope to have clear and meaningful additional recommendations for long term striped bass conservation in 1986. We have no choice but to support the efforts and recommendations of those with the training, expertise, and knowledge to get the job done. There will certainly be some give and take, and that's good, but let's keep the interests of the species first and foremost in our minds, whether or not there are local blitzes.

William A. Muller

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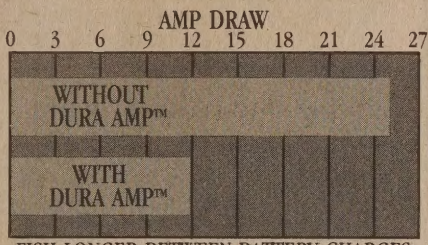

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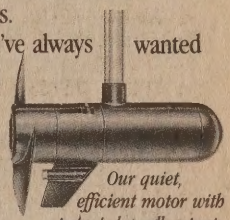

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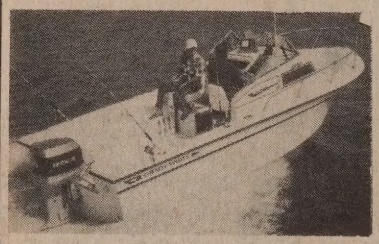

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TICKETS FOR SPORT FISHING FORUM AVAILABLE

Tickets are available for the 1986 New York Sport Fishing Forum through mail order only. Each daily ticket is $5. If tickets remain after mail order sales, they will be sold at the door February 7th and 8th at a cost of $7. Since space is limited for this program, it is highly recommended that tickets are ordered in advance to assure a space at the forum.

To receive tickets, send checks made payable to the 1986 New York Sport Fishing Forum to: Mr. Ray Cadorette, P.O. Box 660, Hampton Bays, NY 11946.

For additional information on the forum and tickets, call Sea Grant at (516) 246-7777.

BASIC BOATING COURSE

The Smithtown Bay Power Squadron will be holding its Basic Boating Course again. The course starts on Tuesday, January 28th at 8PM in the Nesaquake Jr. High School, Edgewood Avenue, St. James. Registration is the same night. A small fee for materials will be charted.

Additional information can be obtained from Richard Tepedino at 724-3699 or Nicholas Mitchel at 265-0225.

WORLD FISHING AND OUTDOOR EXPOSITION AT SUFFERN, NY

The ninth annual World Fishing and Outdoor Exposition opens February 26th at the Rockland Community College Field House in Suffern, New York. Running through March 2nd, this gigantic sportsmen's show has become an eagerly awaited event for hunters and anglers in our area.

Aisle after aisle in the huge field house will be filled with fishing tackle displays, with all major manufacturers represented, plus hunting gear, guides, outfitters, lodges and travel exhibits, fishing boats and motors, taxidermists, custom rod makers, sportsmen's organizations and a lot more. More major sporting equipment retailers than ever will be there, many with special show bargain prices.

In addition to all exhibits (and included in the price of admission) are Expo's daily seminars and clinics on hunting and fishing, featuring world-famous outdoorsmen and local experts to share their knowledge with you.

Doors are open from 1Pm to 10PM Wednesday through Friday; from 9:30AM to 8PM Saturday and from 10AM to 7PM on Sunday. Adult admission is only $5, with children under 12 at $2. Parking is free. The World Fishing and Outdoor Exposition is easy to get to; just take Exit 14B (Airmont Road) off the N.Y. Thruway (1-87). It's the first exit west of the Garden State Parkway and is about 10 minutes drive from the Tappan Zee Bridge.

VISIT WITH FISHERMAN STAFF AT SPORTSMAN'S EXPO

Fisherman readers who plan on visiting this week's Sportsman's Expo at Nassau Coliseum, might want to make it a point to stop by The Fisherman booth (227) and say hello to some of the staff. Among those you are likely to catch there are Stu Miller, Fred Golofaro, John Fritz, Tom Schlichter, John Raguso and Bill Muller.

Bill will have copies of "Surf Fishing with the Experts," on hand for those interested in obtaining a copy of this popular book. You can save on postage and handling costs and Bill will gladly autograph your copy as well.

Anyone subscribing or renewing to The Fisherman at the show will receive a free **Sekora Diamond Jig.**

ENVIRONMENTAL AND INDUSTRY GROUPS LAUNCH JOINT EFFORT TO PROTECT CHESAPEAKE BAY

The Izaak Walton League of America and the DuPont Company recently announced a joint program to honor those who are protecting the Chesapeake Bay. William D. Ruckelshaus, former chief administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will host the groups' first annual Chesapeake Bay Conservation Awards ceremony here on February 20, 1986.

"Our purpose in creating these awards is to give national recognition to individuals, groups, companies and local governments who have played outstanding roles in helping protect the Chesapeake Bay, America's largest estuary," said Jack Lorenz, executive director of the IWLA, one of the nation's top ten environmental groups.

Awards will be presented in seven categories: agriculture; construction and land development; public service groups; local government; business and industry; fisheries and wildlife; and boating and outdoor recreation. In addition, Du Pont will present the "Skipjack" award to a journalist or media organization which has contributed to public understanding of Bay issues.

"Du Pont is co-sponsoring the Chesapeake Bay Conservation Awards as part of a long-standing environmental outreach program both in communities where we have operations and elsewhere," said Robert C. Forney, an executive vice president of the company and chairman of its Environmental Quality Committee. "In

NEW ULTRA-SENSITIVE PRIME®. IT WILL CATCH FISH YOU DIDN'T KNOW WERE THERE.

Fishing is a contact sport. Until you make contact, you can't catch fish.

That's why Du Pont has patented a whole new kind of fishing line. Ultra-sensitive Prime.

Prime makes contact so positive, so effective, it's almost eerie.

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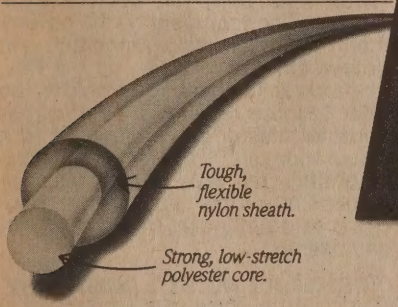


To create Prime, Du Pont introduced the first cofilament fishing line. It combines the advantages of two very different materials—a core of strong, low-stretch polyester surrounded by a sheath of tough, yet flexible, nylon. It marks the leading edge of line technology.

YOU CAN FEEL THE DIFFERENCE YOU SEE.

Prime looks different. But you have to fish it to discover the real difference—Prime's sensitivity. In blind tests, fishermen using Prime reported an uncanny ability to feel what was happening down at the business end of their lines.

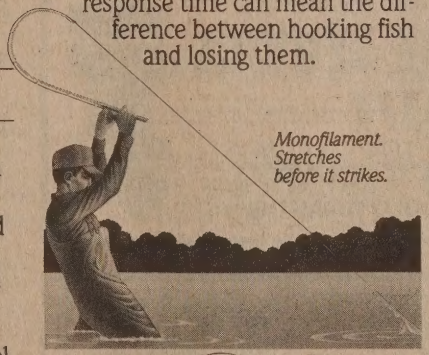
Put Prime to your own test on water you know really well. You'll feel details of underwater structure you may have overlooked. Lure action that was lost to you. Hits you missed.

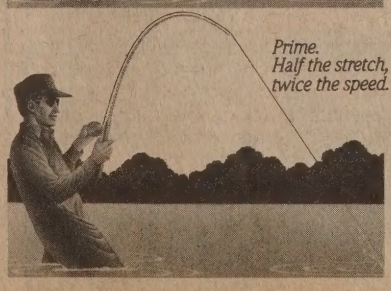
Set the hook. Prime's speed and power will surprise you. And the fish.

The reason? Prime has half the stretch of nylon monofilament in water. Action that gets lost in the stretch of regular line sends tremors of information back through Prime.

TWICE THE HOOKSETTING SPEED.

Low stretch also gives Prime extra-quick reflexes. With conventional nylon line, there's a lag between the sweep of the rod and the bite of the hook. With Prime, you set the hook. Right now. This split-second response time can mean the difference between hooking fish and losing them.





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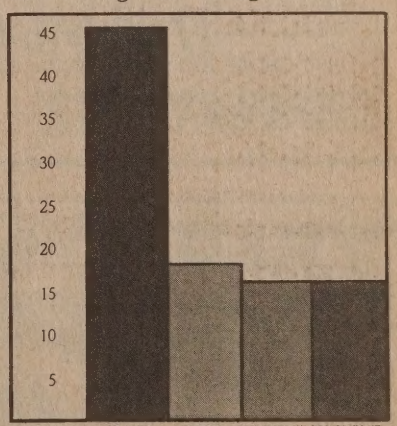

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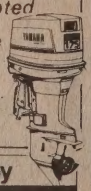

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particular, we hope to increase public awareness of the challenges that face the Bay and to encourage an attitude that everyone has a responsibility and the capability to protect and enhance this vital and beautiful resource."

"We hope these awards—and the hard work and concern for the Bay they represent—will inspire others to start their own clean-up projects," Lorenz added. "We want to ensure that restoration of the Chesapeake is a continuing effort."

Nominees for awards will be reviewed by a five-member awards committee composed of Lorenz; Fran Flanigan, executive director of Citizen's Program for the Chesapeake Bay (CPCB); Margaret Johnston, executive director of the Chesapeake Bay Commission (CBC); Patrick Noonan, president of Conservation Resources Group; and William Baker, president of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF).

Since the landmark Governors' Chesapeake Bay Conference in the fall of 1983, there has been an overwhelming commitment by the government, the business community, and private citizens to clean up the Bay. The awards banquet, to be held at the Four Seasons Hotel with Mr. Ruckelshaus as master of ceremonies, is a celebration of this unprecedented collaboration as well as an acknowledgement of the special contributions of outstanding members from each sector.

FORMULA'S NEW L.I./METRO NY DEALER

Majestic Marine, Inc., parent Corporation of Al Grover's Mako Boats/Majestic Boat Sales, Inc., has been named the area's newest Formula sales and service dealership, with its main office and showroom at 180 Woodcleft Ave., Freeport, (516) 546-BOAT.

ADULT BOATING SAFETY COURSE OFFERED BY FLOTILLA 12-5

Flotilla 12-5, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, College Point Unit, is offering its Spring 1986 Basic Seamanship and Boating Safety Course for adults 18 and over. The course will be comprised of 13 lessons plus an optional certification test. The certificate will be honored by most insurance companies for a policy discount.

The course will start on Tuesday, February 11th, 8PM sharp—and each Tuesday thereafter. It will be held at Flotilla 12-5's headquarters in the Mayers Boatyard Marina, 20-08 119th Street, College Point, NY. The Marina is at the foot of 20th Avenue.

The charge, to cover expenses, is $17.50 per person plus required course book $7.50, both payable at the time of registration, February 11th.

Flotilla 12-5 has been offering these courses for the past 29 years and has US Coast Guard instructors who are highly qualified. The sessions will have both lecture periods and visual aid backups to make each evening's

subject more interesting.

The course is programmed for both new and aspiring boatpeople and boatowners seeking well grounded education in safety, boat handling and basic seamanship. A special emphasis is placed on the knowledge of safe boating for enjoyment.

For further information, contact the Public Education Officer, Ron Werner, 718-347-2727, days 9-5, X5472; 718-762-5490, evenings after 6PM.

SEN. JOHNSON TO HEAR FISHERIES ISSUES

State Senator Owen H. Johnson (4th S.D., Babylon) today announced that the Senate Subcommittee on the Long Island Marine District will hold a public hearing at 10AM, Saturday, January 25th, at the Babylon Town Hall, 200 East Sunrise Highway, Lindenhurst, New York.

Senator Johnson, who is Chairman of the Subcommittee and a member of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, has indicated that the hearing will be open to all interested parties who wish to testify.

Although the Subcommittee will be accepting testimony on any marine matter, the focus of the hearing will be on several bills and proposals affecting the finfish resources of the state's marine waters.

Senator Johnson stated that the following items are on the agenda for specific review:

S.1301, which would establish a marine resources advisory committee to oversee the present marine resources sub account in the Conservation Fund.

S.2353-a, which would establish a marine resources fund and use as a principal source of revenue to the fund highway fuel taxes, which boaters pay, but from which they derive no benefit.

S.3186, which provides explicit authority to the Department of Environmental Conservation to revoke commercial striped bass licenses.

S.4777, which dedicates for marine resource purposes, the fees collected by the Long Island State Park Commission for nighttime fishing permits.

S.5459, which would prohibit the landing of marine food fish by vessels greater than 90 feet in length.

S.5626, which makes technical amendments to the state minimum size limits pertaining to marine species and establishes a new size limit for cod and winter flounder.

A **proposal** to ban the use of trawls within three miles of certain Long Island South Shore inlets.

A **proposal** to provide an explicit sales tax exemption for vessels which take persons fishing for hire.

Copies of the above bills and bill memos are available at Senator Johnson's District Office, 23-24 Argyle Square, Babylon (just east of Argyle Lake).

Persons who wish to testify can reserve a specific time by calling Senator Johnson's District Office, (516) 669-9200. Testimony will be

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limited to 10 minutes unless specific arrangements are made prior to the hearing date. Although oral testimony will be accepted, written testimony is encouraged; parties submitting written testimony should provide eight copies.

OCEAN SPRAY MARINE NEW MANATEE DEALER

O.S.M./Gary's Marine Service, located at Ft. of Bayberry Ave., Merrick, NY, (516) 223-0033, has become Long Island's newest dealer for Manatee boats of Florida.

For 20 years, Manatee has been manufacturing quality family oriented fishing boats. The current model line, from 17 to 22 feet includes center consoles, bowriders and cuddy cabins.

Features include hand lay-up construction, five full length stringers, foam filled hulls and Glidden Neo Gel-Kote finish for long lasting durability. All models have specious cockpits with plenty of room for fishing and utilize either gel coat or nautilex flooring for easy clean up and low maintenance.

O.S.M./Gary's Marine Service curently has all models on display at their marina and also will be exhibiting Manatee boats at the upcoming Long Island boat shows.

BOATERS, COAST GUARD GET GOOD CHRISTMAS TIDINGS

During its scramble to adjourn for the holidays, the U.S. Congress left behind a few Christmas tidings which are evoking joy within the recreational boating community.

The U.S. Coast Guard, which at the hands of the Senate had been facing a massive cut of $230 million in its budget, succeeded in weathering the storm and came through the Congressional shoals relatively unscathed. While the USCG's operating budget may fall just a bit short of last year's, its capital account will actually be significantly higher.

The outlook for 1986 is improved not only for the Coast Guard's budget, but state boating safety programs should get a big boost as well.

For the first time since 1980, when Congress agreed that the federal fuel taxes paid by boaters should go into a trust fund to be used by the states for their boating safety, education and law enforcemnt programs, the full amount authorized, $30 million, will actually be appropriated. This more than doubles the $13.6 million released last year.

Furthermore, Congressional restrictions on the use of these funds to build public access sites may be lifted, allowing the states to use trust fund monies for more launching ramps and moorings.

"These twin legislative achievements are a testament to the fact that boat owners have clout when they are organized," said BOAT/U.S. President Richard Schwartz.

With more than 190,000 members, Boat Owners Association of the United States (BOAT/U.S.) is the largest national organization of boat owners in the country.

FLOTILLA 1-1 OFFERS BOATING SKILLS COURSE IN BABYLON

Flotilla 1-1 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has announced they will once again offer their public education class "Boating Skills and Seamanship" course. This is the longest and most practical of the Auxiliary programs. This 13 week course takes the student from the language of boating, marine engines, rules of the road, piloting/charting, to a practical discussion of weather. Each lesson is two hours in duration. The course will commence on Tuesday, January 28th and will be held at the Babylon High School, located on Carll Avenue. A nominal fee of $25 will be charged for the material which will be supplied to each student. At the conclusion of this course, all graduates will be given a beautiful certificate, supplied by the U.S. Coast Guard.

For more information call Betty McEachen after 6PM at 669-2842 or write to Box 92, Babylon, NY 11702.

NORTH BROOKHAVEN SPORT FISHERMEN'S CLUB LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

Interested fishermen are welcome to attend our meetings on the second Monday of every month at 8PM. Meetings are held in the Brookhaven Recreation Building at the intersection of Rt. 25A and Rt. 83 in Mount Sinai. Try us out before making up your mind to join a club.

BERKLEY'S $1000 WORLD RECORD PROGRAM EXTENDED TO RODS

As fishermen across the country ready for a new fishing season, January 1st heralds the beginning of a new $1000 World Record Reward Program by Berkley.

For three years, Berkley has offered a $1000 reward for new IGFA records using Trilene fishing line. This year, Berkley expanded the program to include Lightning Rods and Berkley Bionix Rods. Fishermen setting an IGFA record on either Trilene line or a pre-registered Berkley Bionix or Lightning Rod can earn one $1000 reward for each.

The 1986 World Record program is simple:

Step 1: Catch an IGFA world record fishing using Trilene fishing line and/or a pre-registered Berkley Bionix or Lightning Rod.

Step 2: Upon acknowledgement from IGFA, contact Berkley and Company and let them know you set a record.

Step 3: Your record must hold throughout 1986 (until December 31st). This makes you the end-of-year record holder. Berkley will issue payment in June of 1987. You'll receive $1000 if you used Trilene and $1000 for either a Berkley Bionix or Lightning Rod.

Complete rule information is found inside the Trilene Box, or on the Light-

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ning Rod or Berkley Bionix rod tag. Or, write to: Berkley & Company, World Record Program, Trilene Drive, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360.

SEN. JOHNSON ATTENDS ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES MEETING

State Senator Owen H. Johnson (4th S.D., Babylon), second from right, joined officials from 15 coastal Atlantic states recently, at a meeting of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, held in Southampton. Pictured with the Long Island legislator are, left to right: NYS Assemblyman Bill Bianchi (3rd A.D., E. Patchogue); Marty Lang, Supervisor of the Town of Southampton; Elton J. Gissendanner, Chairman-elect of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission; and Connecticut State Senator George Gunther.

Senator Johnson, who serves as Chairman of the NYS Senate Subcommittee on the Long Island Marine District, was elected Chairman of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission committee of governors' appointees and legislators.

Representatives of the 15 states which comprise the Atlantic States Commission address issues which are common to the states which border the Atlantic Ocean. A major concern of the Commission is the development of regulations regarding migratory species of fish which inhabit coastal waters, such as fluke, weakfish and striped bass.

'86 MOON CLOCK NOW AVAILABLE

Doug Hannon's *Moon Clock* for 1986 is now available and covers the period from January 1, 1986 through June 30, 1987—an extra 6 months of information *Free* if purchased now. Hannon's Moon Clock is the only activity-time moon-phase calculator on the market.

Daylight Savings Time and Standard Time are combined on one time scale with large and easy-to-read numbers. Its dial design permits a sportsman to align the "day" with the "month" and the calculator indicates the AM and PM (two daily) periods of excellent (major) and good (minor) fishing and game activity. As Hannon reported: "The greatest fishing and hunting success takes place when the dark (new moon) or full moon falls within the three-day brackets in the moon phase window" of the Moon Clock calculator. Field studies have shown five times greater success during the excellent periods than in other times of the day. In addition, Hannon's Moon Clock works in all time zones.

Doug Hannon, No. 1 authority on big bass fishing and dedicated conservationist, created his original pocket sized calculator 10 years ago; it was readily accepted by sportsmen everywhere. Concurring with nature, he and other experts agree that lunar phases exert strong influence not only on tides, but especially the living and feeding habits of all animals.

Hannon's Moon Clock now puts this nature's clock at the fingertips of all sportsmen. The waterproof, pocket sized *Moon Clock* is available at $4.95 each, plus 75¢ postage and handling, by writing to Tern Corporation, Dept. 198, P.O. Box 312, Seminole, FL 3542.

FREE BOATING COURSE IN SAYVILLE

A 12-chapter course in Boating Skills and Seamanship will be given by Flotilla 1-7 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary at the Sayville Community Center, Green Avenue, Sayville. Registration will be on February 6th, from 7:30 to 9:00 PM. The lessons are designed for beginner and intermediate levels and the entire family is encouraged to attend. The course is free, with a nominal charge for text and materials.

For more information, please call 589-7491 after 6PM.

BOATING COURSES IN EAST ISLIP

Once again, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 1-3 will provide the opportunity to learn more about boating from those who know and care: "Safety First."

Join your friends on Thursday nights at the East Islip Senior H.S. beginning February 6th: Boating Skills and Seamanship and Sailing and Seamanship; and also, February 13th: Young Boaters. Registration will be at the high school January 21st, 22nd, 23rd and on class day. "Be a Pro-Know!"

For more information, call: Luis Ramos PA-FSO 1-3, 434-9588.

SAFE BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION

On Monday, January 6th, the City Island Power Squadron started its spring boating course, which teaches the basics of safe boating, including rules of the road, use of equipment, regulation and safe boating operations, boat handling, elementary seamanship, charts and aids to coastal boating, engine troubleshooting, sailing and piloting. The course is open to all, whether you are a boat owner or not.

The course is being given at Herbert H. Lehman High School, 3000 East Tremont Avenue, Bronx, NY 10461. It starts at 7:30 PM and will continue every Monday evening for 12 weeks. The course is free; cost of course material is $15.

For further information, call (914) 969-6264 or (212) 823-1974.

SAFE BOATING COURSE IN BROOKLYN

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Plumb Beach Flotilla 11-7, will present a 16 week safe boating course starting on January 27th. The class will meet on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 10:30 PM at Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn, Bldg. #1. The need to inform the boating public of these courses has prompted me to ask your assistance.

The course will include instruction and demonstration in safe boat handling, aids to navigation, marine engines, marlinspike, weather, sailing, piloting, legal requirements, radio communications, rules of the road and first aid.

A young boaters course will be given at the same time for youngsters from ages 10 to 15, only. Successful completion of this course will give the boy or girl a NY State Certification which is mandatory for operating a powerboat.

Pre-registration is a must. For further information, please contact Andrew Russo, (718) 232-3511 between the hours of 6:00 and 8:00 PM. Register now!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Fisherman has been made aware of the existence of numerous entry level jobs available beginning immediately. These jobs are full time and pay $4.99 per hour. Some jobs will only be available during the summer months, and thus, might be ideal for high school and college students. These jobs are **not** related to the fishing industry.

If you are interested, call The Fisherman at (516) 725-4200 and leave your **full name, area code and phone number** and **address**. We'll forward this information and you'll be contacted.

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BOATS FOR ANGLERS:

STARCRAFT MARINER 18

by Pete Barrett

The Starcraft Mariner 18 is an excellent choice for the angler looking for a small boat with big boat space. It's light in weight, easy to handle as a one-man boat, runs across water no deeper than a wet sponge and with the right engine it uses minimal amounts of fuel. It trailers well, holds several fishermen plus their gear and can be a great family boat with lots of freeboard to make this skiff "kidproof."

I had two years of firsthand experience with an 18 Mariner and put a lot of hours on that boat as we chased channel bass off the Virginia Barrier Islands, fluke and trout off Chincoteague and weakfish in Delaware Bay. It handled Long Island Sound striped bass off the Norwalk Islands and bay blues in Barnegat and Great Bay. It was always a good friend and took its fair share of fish.

Starcraft has made numerous subtle changes to the Mariner and the latest version of this venerable fishing boat make it better than ever. Constructed of heavy walled aluminum, the one-piece bottom is .080 gauge and strongly riveted for strength and water-tight integrity.

The bottom design is a shallow modified vee and with the total weight with crew, engine and fuel of about less than 200 pounds, this skiff will fly. She's ideal in a bay or large lake and will handle small seas with no problem, but heavy offshore water is not her cup of tea.

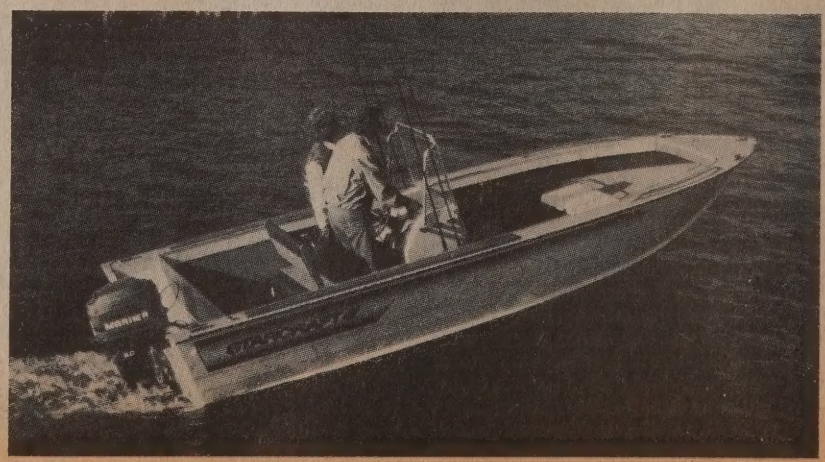
Up forward is a raised casting platform with storage compartment underneath. A low profile grab rail is handy for anchoring, yet is perfect for light tackle fishing and fly rodding. The freeboard is quite high for a boat of this size and it is easier to grab the gun'ls than to have a high bow rail get in the way of fishing.

The center console is made of fiberglass and has enough topside space to mount electronics like a flasher, LCR or graph recorder. Steering and engine controls are mounted on a slanting surface with room to add gauges, tachs, and flush mount electronics.

The forward side of the console has a built-in seat which can double as a cooler or a bait or live well. Rod holders are placed on the sides of the console and can hold up to 6 rods in a vertical position for fast access when fish start breaking and you need a rod right away.

The rear of the console is open providing lots of room to slide in tackle boxes or other gear. A shelf holds small items like terminal tackle, binoculars and is a good place to mount a CB or VHF radio to keep it dry.

Starcraft adds lots of additional storage by using a box-like helm seat. It is wide enough for two adults to sit on and has a two-position back rest. Swing it forward and the anglers can face aft while trolling or drift fishing,



slide it back and the seat is now ready for sitting while the boat is under way. The aft side of the seat is open and tackle boxes, cooler or duffle bags can be slid under the seat so they are out of the way, but handy for quick access.

At the stern, a large splash well keeps following seas out of the boat and there's room under the well for fuel tanks and batteries. Transom height is designed for long shaft engines.

Additional rod storage is built in under the gun'ls with up to 8 rods able to be stored. Flush mount rod holders can be added aft of the console and bulkhead mount rod holders can be added to the transom splash well. Teak covering boards look nice and add strength for trolling rod holders and if outriggers will be mounted.

Decks are made of 3/4 inch exterior grade plywood, covered with a non-skid vinyl deck covering. Foam is injected unde the decks, not only for extra flotation, but to deaden sound and make a quiet running boat. Coast Guard required flotation is also built into the sides of the hull and at the transom corners.

The joining of the hull bottom and sides is beefed up with reinforcement angles. A molded-in spray rail prevents light spray from running up the sides of the hull and then into the boat itself.

Major seams are double riveted and in many places Starcraft uses over 100 rivets per foot to assure hull durability. My own Mariner had a few hundred hours on it and never showed signs of leaking. The transom is built of 13 ply, 1½ inch thick plywood and fits the entire stern.

The maximum recommended outboard for the 18 Mariner is 120 hp, but an engine this size would truly be awesome. My rig had a 50 on it the first year and was on the sluggish side, so I replaced it with a 70 hp engine the next year. I'd run all day on less than 12 gallons of fuel and the boat was as fast as I'd ever like to run it. Unless you plan to carry a crew of four football players every time you go out, I'd suggest an engine no more than 90 horsepower for a good blend of speed yet without sacrificing fuel economy.

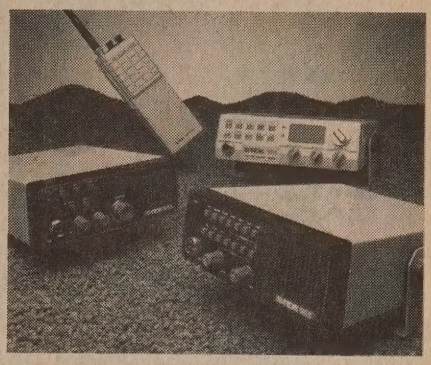
The 18 Mariner has been on the market for over 15 years and is one of those classic boats that never seem to age or become outdated. From the Great Lakes to the inshore saltwater coast and especially in the hundreds of miles of coastal bays, the Mariner feels right at home.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length	18'3"
Beam	79.25"
Draft	8"
Hull Weight	850 pounds
Maximum Horsepower	120
Fuel Capacity	Portable tanks

Manufactured by: Starcraft Marine, Post Office Box 338, Topeka, Indiana 46571, (219) 593-2550.

We speak to your radio needs.



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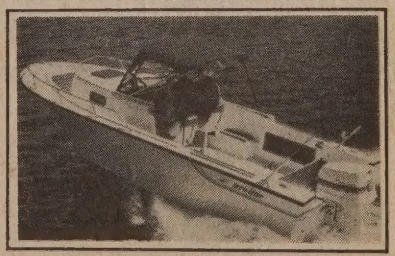

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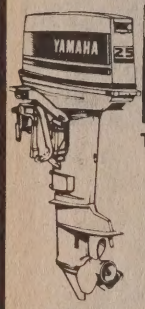

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★ PRODUCT REVIEW ★

UNIDEN MC-500

by Pete Barrett

The Uniden MC-500 Fish Finder brings video technology within range of every fisherman. Its small size, large power output and wide selection of operational features, including surface water temperature and boat speed, make this a package of electronics that is both useful and affordable.

By using a black and white CRT screen, Uniden has kept the cost of the MC-500 at a down-to-earth level. In actual use I found the black, white and gray tone readings to be easy to read and very clear. The high resolution screen uses 256 pixels (dots) to display an image that is similar in quality and clarity to what would be expected of graph recorder paper. There's no need to apologize because the display is black and white—it is the clearest and most detailed screen readout I've seen so far on a video scope.

The CRT display screen is 5 inches high, 3.5 inches wide and there's a generously sized hood to keep out bright sunlight in daytime operation. The images are shown in 4 shades from white, through gray and black. The weakest signals are black; the strongest in pure white.

On the unit I used, the bottom readings showed as white with a pale gray second echo immediately below the white line and then a third line as darker gray. Soft muddy bottoms would show up as a wider band of white with one or perhaps no second echoes.

Bluefish marked as upside down vees, white on top with one or more shades of gray below the white. Schools of sand eels were represented by "blobs" of white surrounded by gray tones.

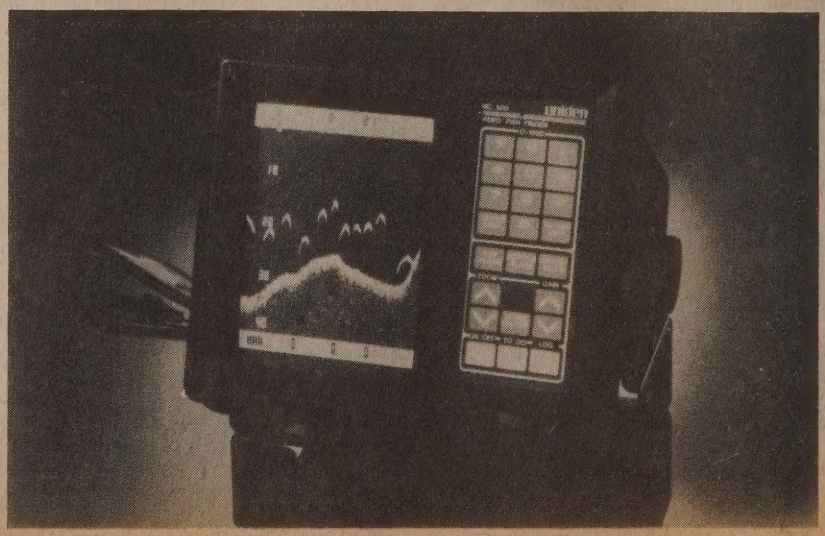
The unit is housed in an ABS high impact plastic known as Cycolac and is more durable than a metal cabinet. It can't corrode and minor scratches do not show up as ugly scars or cause corrosion problems.

The mounting bracket is aluminum with an epoxy-type coating. Two gimbaled knobs secure the housing to the mounting bracket and when tensioned properly the MC-500 will not slip or change position in the mount.

When looking at the unit from the front, the screen is on the left, the membrane keypads on the right. The pads are printed in white, gray and blue for quick reading and visibility.

Turn the unit on with the power switch located just below the keypad. A microprocessor automatically seeks the bottom reading and within seconds the bottom is displayed and the gain automatically set. The screen displays the bottom and fish in much the same manner as a paper graph recorder so the first-time user should need very little time to adapt to the new video scope.

To the left of the screen the MC-500 will display numbers and dashed lines that break the screen into 4 equal segments. For instance, if the bottom range was 0 to 40 feet, the screen would display markings to in-



dicate 10, 20, 30 and 40 feet.

The display updates itself every second or so depending on the speed of the sweep. Pressing the "Sweep Speed" keypad increases or decreases the speed at which the display moves across the screen from right to left.

The bottom depth reading can be changed at any time by using the numeric keypads at the top half of the keyboard. To enter numbers for a bottom depth of, say, 80 feet, press (80) and the (Lower Limit) keypad.

An upper limit can be assigned if you want to read only a portion of the bottom. Still in 80 feet of water, but now located over a wreck, press (40), then the (Upper Limit) keypad. The screen will now display from 40 feet to 80 feet. This effectively enlarges the readings of fish and structure at this depth.

You can quickly "zoom" up or down by pressing either Zoom key. This is a handy feature for trollers where the bottom may quickly change as the boat moves through the trolling pattern and the bottom changes quickly from a high ridge to a deep hole.

Gain is adjusted by depressing the increase or decrease keypad marked "Gain." When the unit is first turned on, the Gain is automatically set by the MC-500, but as depths change during the day, the Gain will have to be tuned. The amount of Gain in use is displayed at the bottom left of the screen as series of bars.

The MC-500 has a transducer operating frequency of 120 kHz and will provide excellent readings under most conditions. Most coastal and deep lake fishermen will find this frequency provides excellent readings in the mid-range waters typically fished. In waters of 20 to 400 feet, the 120 kHz range is just about ideal and this range of depths are the most commonly encountered while actually fishing. It can, of course, read bottom in both shallower and deeper water.

Even with only one day's use, the MC-500 was simple to use with key strokes easy to remember and perform. The screen gave clear readings and marked fish as expected. The smallish size, when compared to other video scopes, makes the MC-500 a candidate for use on small boats. It fits handily on a center console or at a helm station.

SPECIFICATIONS

Dimensions:
- Height . . . . . 7.9 inches
- Width . . . . . 7.9 inches
- Depth . . . . . 8.5 inches

Weight . . . . . 6.8 pounds
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Multiples of ten feet
Display Size . . . . . 5 by 3.5 inches
Temp Gauge Range . . . . . 14 to 122 F
Power Supply 12VDC, 1.2A, 20W
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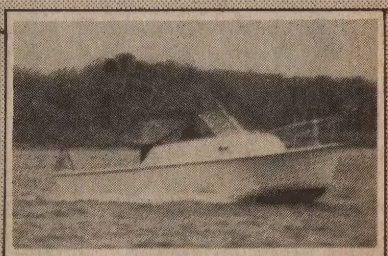

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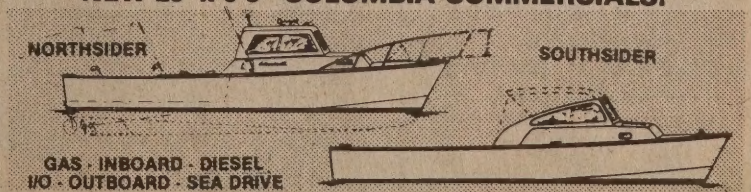

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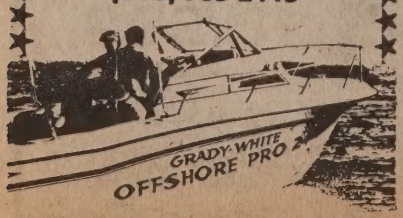

THE TACKLE DOCTOR

by Russ Wilson

Dear Doc,

I am planning a trip to the west central coast of Florida around the Sarasota/Clearwater area with my 22 foot cruiser for a week of cruising and a week of fishing. Can you recommend one good book about the fish and fishing in this area and where to get said book? I know absolutely nothing about the fishing in that area. I would not venture much more than 15 to 20 miles offshore. *Richard Rose.*

Dear Richard,

There are not many books written about the Florida Coast. The only reliable publication that I am aware of is Stu Apte's "Fishing in the Florida Keys and Flamingo." This work was published by Windward Publishing Inc., P.O. Box 371005, Miami, Florida 33137 and sold for $3.95 in paperback. Unfortunately, it covers only the Florida Keys and does not focus on the area you mention, but does go into detail on fishing the Keys, tackle that meets the fishery and some offshore fishing tactics.

Your best bet when requesting specific knowledge on the Florida fishing opportunities is to contact the Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission, 620 South Meridian, Tallahassee, FL 32301, (904) 488-4676, or the Florida Department of Natural Resources, 3700 Commonwealth Blvd., Douglas Building, Tallahassee, FL 32301; (904) 488-8230.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I am looking for a freshwater book I read about in your magazine in June or July. It was a freshwater book located around the area of New York. Where and what to use, where to have picnics, and so on. It was by one author; I don't know the name. It was supposed to have been published in June or July. I would appreciate it if you can find out the title and author of the book. Also, could you recommend a good saltwater book about the same. *Lin Kim.*

Dear Lin,

I believe you are referring to Good Fishing Close to New York City, *by Jim Capossela. This is a complete guide to fishing in fresh or salt waters around the Metropolitan area.*

You can order a copy direct from The Fisherman at $15.95 for the hard cover edition and $9.95 for the soft cover. There is a postage and handling charge of $1.50 per book.

The address to write to is: The Fisherman Magazine, P.O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, NY 11963.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I am a subscriber to The Long Island Fisherman and would like to get some information, if you are able to give it to me.

I have a Viking fishing pole and 8 inches of the tip broke off. I would like to know where that company is located so that I can write to them concerning this matter. Thank you. *Clifford Hahn.*

Dear Clifford,

You've got me stumped. I've checked around and asked most of my sources who manufactured that specific brand of fishing rod and came up empty.

There are literally thousands of custom rod builders who operate out of their homes, through small tackle shops or by mail and each and every one has his or her own name for their products.

Maybe one of our subscribers can offer assistance. If you have a Viking rod there must be others who have similar models and one of them may know who builds custom rods under that particular label. Sorry I cannot offer more assistance.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I am relatively new to surf fishing and a recent subscriber to your weekly magazine. I am eager to learn and the articles and features you provide are very informative.

Recently I purchased a casting net to catch my own bait. However, no instructions were included. Would it be possible to run an illustrated article on how to use the net? *Charlie Fell.*

Dear Charles,

Copies of a full length feature story detailing the How-To of using a cast net are available from The Fisherman. Author Bill Berghof provided a series of photos that show exactly how to use the cast net from step one to finish. Send along a S.A.S.E. and we'll be happy to send you a copy.

Apparently a lot of fishermen wanted information on how to use a cast net for we have had numerous in-

quiries asking for an article on the subject.

* * *

Dear Doc,

Can you help me. Recently a bunch of fishermen were on the Barnegat beaches and had nice rod holders and front "box" holders that they got from Hamburger's. They said the store was on Toms River.

I called for information in Toms River and they had no listing for Hamburger's. Do you know where they are and how I can get in touch with them? I'd like to equip my beach buggy with a box type holder and rod carriers.

John D. Paul, Jr.

Dear John,

Apparently someone at the phone company did not go to the trouble of checking out your request. Hamburger's is located at 1501 Industrial Way North, Toms River, NJ 08753. You can order the Cooler rack and rod holders direct from the company. If you wish to call first, the number is (201) 240-3888.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I have an 18 foot aluminum Starcraft. Lately, I noticed a lot of water coming out when I pulled the plug. I put the boat on the trailer and put some water in and noticed a little pin hole under the back of the boat. What is the best way to fix this? *Lou Pietro.*

Dear Lou,

You do not state how old your Starcraft is, but I'd suggest you first check wtih the company before attempting a repair on your own. Starcraft has a terrific guarantee, and will repair your 18 footer free if it is still under their warranty.

Even if it is not under guarantee you are much better off having them repair the hull for they have the experience to do it correctly and usually the cost is not that much greater than if you did the work yourself.

Another avenue to pursue is the local marina. Some marinas specialize in aluminum boats and have the right kind of equipment to repair nicks, dings and outright leaks.

We've used aluminum boats for the better part of 25 years and have had excellent service from most major brands including Starcraft, Dura-Nautic, Lund, Smokercraft, Aluma-Craft, Lone Star (sold to Chrysler) and a half dozen others that have spent time in our yard throughout the years. Some have developed leaks, usually due to our abuse, while others never allowed a drop of water to enter the boat from the bottom rivets or welds.

If the leak is caused by a tiny pin hole, you might have it welded by a qualified heliarc mechanic, but personally, I would not take chances unless I was positively sure the mechanic knew how to handle marine aluminum as he could do a botched up job that will leave you worse off than when you started.

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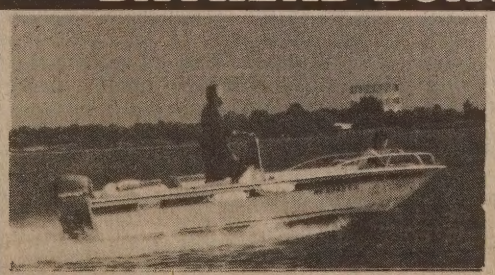

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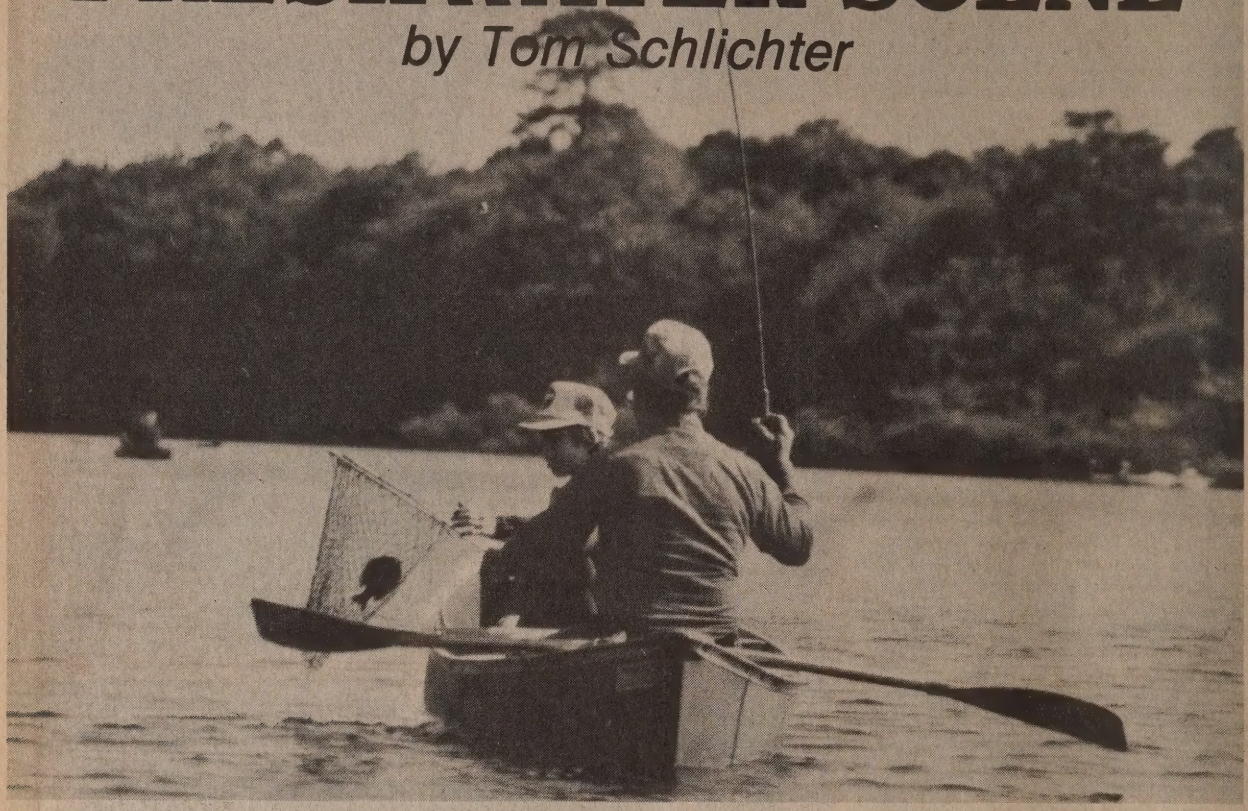
★★★ 1985 REVIEW ★★★

FRESHWATER SCENE

by Tom Schlichter



Well, another fishing season has come and gone and now it's time to sit back and take a good look at just how productive a year Long Island's "sweet water" enthusiast enjoyed. When I first began writing the freshwater column early last March, I must admit to being a little apprehensive. Although I do quite a bit of freshwater fishing myself, I just wasn't sure how many other anglers practiced this type of fishing on a regular basis. Much to my relief, we found that the freshwater scene has a substantial number of devotees. Better yet, a few of them were even willing to share some information with us from week to week.

The number of freshwater anglers seems to be increasing steadily over the past three or four years and quite a few local tackle shops have mentioned that they are increasingly being called upon to supply lures and tackle for these anglers. This increase in "sweet water" interest has had both positive and negative effects. On the bright side, the increased interest in freshwater fishing has allowed us to pass on more information and detail some of the most productive techniques, baits, lures and locations. On the flip side, more fishermen mean heavier pressure on Long Island's lakes, rivers, ponds and streams. While most of our waters are still under-utilized, the benefits of catch and release tactics need to be ingrained in newcomers today to ensure that there will be as few problems as possible in the future.

From what I could gather from this year's reports, the most intense concentration of fishing pressure was spent during the early part of the season. Many bay fishermen use freshwater fishing as sort of a tune-up before things get hot on the bays. Once things get going in the briny their interest in freshwater species drops off sharply. There are, however, a fair number of anglers who specialize in one or another freshwater gamesters and these "specialists" do quite well. The names Mosely, Seibert and Rose quickly come to mind as I glance through old reports to see who caught their share of lunkers.

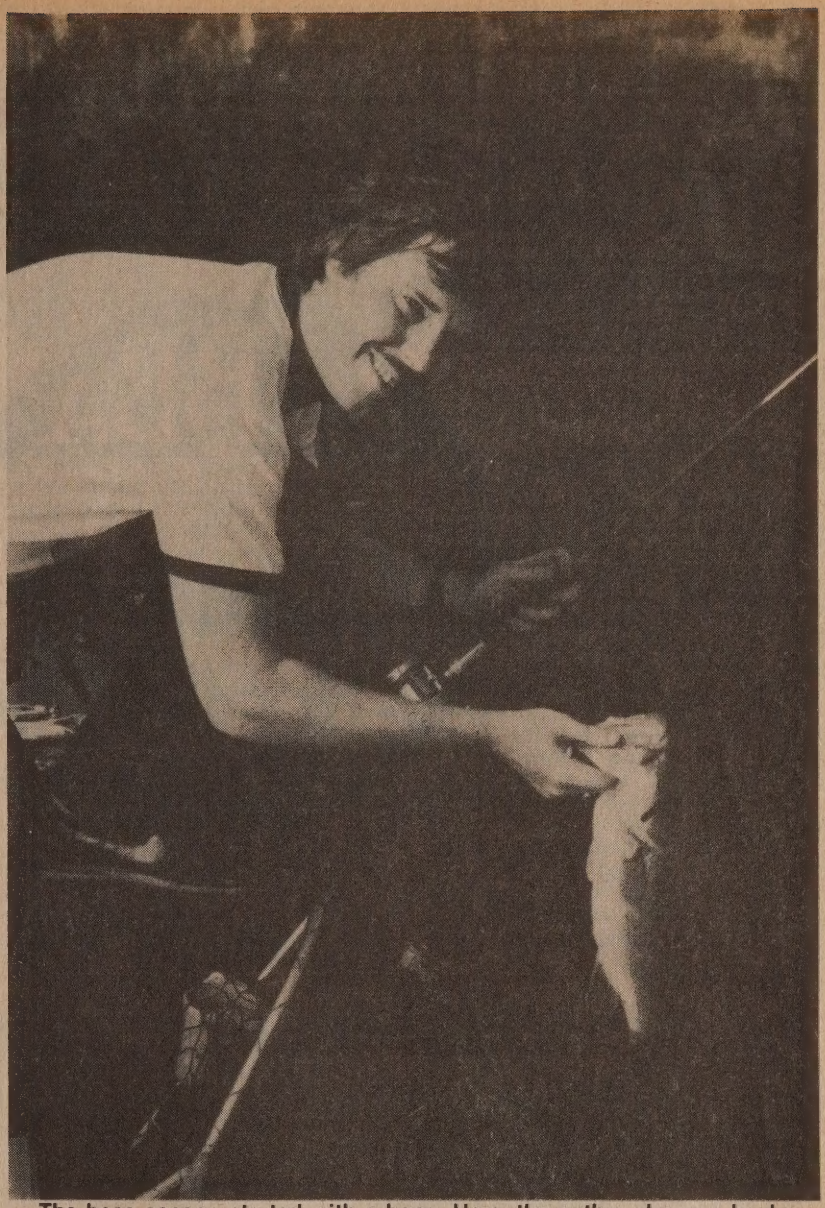
Based on the past year's reports, it would appear that largemouth bass were the most heavily pursued species. The season for these fish started off with a bang. After a slow first week of June, the next four weeks saw no less than 25 fish between 5 to 7 lbs. reported! Contrary to what one might expect, this early season bassing was the best of the year. By mid-July, the big bass were down to one or two a week. Still, 1 to 2 lbers. were easy to come by and provided plenty of action until the heat of late August put everything but carp at a standstill. The fall fishing for largemouths was somewhat of a disappointment. Fall is supposed to be the time when most big bass are taken but this year proved different. There were a few flurries of lunker action in September and early October but, in general, big fish were not as cooperative as one would expect. This was probably a combination of several factors. For one thing, the warmer than usual temperatures this fall may have prevented the bass from going on one big, late season feeding binge. Secondly, the excellent run of bass and blues in the surf undoubtedly had a lot of bassers looking for the kind with stripes. Mixed in with the bigmouths, especially early and late in the season, were plenty of pickerel, most in the 16 to 22 inch range, but a few to 5 lbs. Most of the bigger "jacks" were taken in lakes "out east" which, for the benefit of those who haven't figured out this term yet,

means take your guess between Lural Lake, Peconic River, Big Reed Pond or Wildwood Lake.

Trout had a more substantial following than I would have suspected. This may be the result of the superb fly fishing available on the Nissequogue, Carmen's and Connetquot Rivers. this fishing has been improving yearly and quite frankly, the size and number of fish available in these rivers is as good as, if not better than, most streams and rivers upstate has to offer. The traditional April 1st opening day and the entire next week saw some excellent action, but things then quieted down until the end of May and early June when dry flies began to produce some nice fish. The Connetquot River saw brown trout to 9 lbs., one 6 lber., and quite a few fish in the 4 to 5 lb. class. Two pounders were considered ho-hum by regulars to this river. (I think they're getting spoiled!) On the Nissequogue River, 14 to 16 inch fish were the norm throughout the season with one or two fish reaching the 5 lb. mark. Another interesting trout note is the fact that "sea run" browns were taken from tidal creeks ALL summer long and the most productive month was August! While most of these fish probably never put out to sea, it would seem that they spent most of the summer in the tidal creeks or bays. A lot of these fish went 3 to 4 lbs. and I'm sure that a few more were taken than were reported.

Although I've been carp fishing for quite a few years and thus knew how good it can be on the Island, I'll bet there were more than a few of you who had no idea that so many anglers took local carp fishing seriously. From the second week of March on through the first of November, almost every report had one or two mentions of carp. The majority of those fish weighed in went 10 lbs. or better and there were several fish weighing 18 lbs. or more. The largest carp weighed in went 22 lbs. and there were some anglers releasing carp in the high teens and low twenties throughout the summer.

Other fish on which substantial numbers of anglers concentrated efforts included white perch, yellow perch, crappies and bullheads. Both white and yellow perch provided excellent action during March and April. The former were plentiful in tidal creeks and river mouths and weighed up to 3 lbs. Unfortunately, as I made my last entry in early December, we were still waiting for the fall schools to make an appearance. The latter were taken in the Patchogue lakes and Lake Ronkonkoma among others. Bullheads provided some outstanding catches for anglers working Lake Ronkonkoma and especially Forge Pond where the first two weeks of May witnessed catches of 75 and 150 cats for three anglers. Crappie fishing was excellent during the spring, especially in the Twin Lakes of Wantagh where 15 inch fish were taken with suprising regularity. Sadly, as with bass and perch, the fall action fizzled.



The bass season started with a bang. Here, the author shows a husky largemouth taken from Lake Ronkonkoma.

The DEC has been experimenting with the stocking of two hybrid species on Long Island. Since 1983, tiger muskies and hybrid striped bass have been stocked in Lake Ronkonkoma and Fort Pond respectively. Two of the muskies were reported caught and released this season. One was taken in June and the other in August. Both measured roughly 28 inches—just two inches short of the legal limit. More fingerling muskies were stocked this year and the jury is still out as to how well these fish will take in the big lake. If all goes well, DEC official Charlie Guthrie assures me that the first legal sized muskies should be taken in late July or early August next season.

Of the hybrid bass, only one, an 18 incher was taken this year. DEC surveys, however, show a substantial population of these fish present. The fish stocked in 1983 are now 18 inches or longer. Those stocked in '84 should be about 14 inches long. The problem here is that fishing for the hybrids is different than working largemouths (the hybrids like open water) and anglers just haven't got the hang of them yet. A second negative factor is the way the water roughs up on this lake whenever the wind blows. As with the muskies in Lake Ronkonkoma, the jury will have to reconvene next season.

Well, that about wraps it up for last season. Went fast, didn't it? All in all, I'd say it was a pretty good year for most of us. If you'll excuse me now, I'm going to go and sharpen the hooks on a few of my Rebels and Rapalas (a New Year's resolution; I dropped a couple because of dull hooks last spring) because as you well know, the 1986 season is just around the corner.

L.I.B.B.A.

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★★★ 1985 REVIEW ★★★

LONG ISLAND SOUND

—Including the North Fork—

by Martin Garrell

From beginning to end, the past year on the Sound and out East was a story of species. If you could shift targets frequently, you probably had a very good season; likewise if you didn't mind traveling for some of your steady action. If you were persistent and stayed close to home, things were either very bad or rather good because some species were just plain picky.

Nothing about the spring or summer weather made those seasons memorable, but Hurricane Gloria certainly scared the daylights out of the boaters and coastal residents. Strangely, the passage of the huge storm was so rapid that no effects on the fishing were really noticeable. Damage to small craft in the harbors was something else. Mount Sinai Harbor, for example, was a mess, and a couple of the Peconic boats like the BoAnne and Blue Albatross were out for the remainder of the season as a result. The autumn was so warm for so long that most summer species stayed in the area until almost Thanksgiving. Then the bottom dropped out of the thermometer and the wind machines cranked up for the final curtain.

What was the bottom fishing like in 1985? Take a look at the flatfish first. Spring action on winter flounder was very good early, but some felt that Gardiners Island was not quite as productive as it had been during the 1984 season. Bottom boats did well all over the Sound into June, but the fall fishing was non-existent due to warm water temperatures. There were some concerns over heavy harvests by dragging and questions about the exploitation of surf clam resources on the Sound; however, it was difficult to see the effects directly on a day-to-day basis.

West end party boats like the North Star and the Apache were doing well on flounder by March 21, and the Klondike VIII and the East End fleet joined in the activity by the first week in April. By March 28 water temperatures in the Peconics were already 39 degrees, and the first catches were recorded in the South Race by Captain Marty's. Within a week, reports of fish to 1½ lbs. were coming from western waters and 2 lbers. were appearing in the Peconics. The eastern Sound was 44 degrees by April 4 and around 50 degrees a month later as catches accelerated.

Billy Collins got the Ever Ready fired up by April 28, and the Prime Time III was the last of the Orient group to start flounder fishing on May

(Continued on next page.)

Weakfish were again a disappointment to most anglers, despite a shot of fish in mid-July on the Sound. Action in the Peconics was scant too and limited to after dark.

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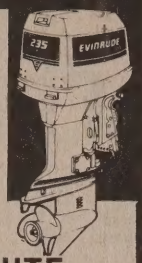

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4. Bob Beglowski's Captain Bob complemented the pattern by sailing from Mattituck Inlet. Gardiner's fishing peaked during the first week of May and the last week of April when catches of more than 300 large blackback flatties per party boat were possible, but it stayed good right through mid-June when the fleet shifted over to summer flounder.

Among the large fish in the run were Paul Young's 2.15, which won the Glen Cove Sport Shop contest, and a pair of 3.6s taken on the Peconic Star by Marilyn Foehrenbach and Al Meyer in April and May. Leslie Ann Adamo took the Peconic season prize from the North Fork Party Boat Association with a 3.14, fishing from the Prowler. We did hear of one 4.8 weighed by the Captain Bob and of one 4.0 in a catch by Chris Hands out of the Mattituck Fishing Station.

Fluke fishing centered around the western Sound after the second week in July and the traditional Gardiner's run never developed. One plausible theory espoused by Larry Ciccotto was that of bluefish dominance. An explosion of small bluefish and mid-sized choppers may have been sufficient to push the summer flounder to the west because of competition over food supplies.

Although some of the earliest reports of fluke came from the South Race with some fish to 6 lbs., the most extraordinary early shots were reported by the Rocky Point Fishing Stop and Greenlawn Sport Shop from Port Jeff, Rocky Point and Sunken Meadow. Fish to 7 lbs. were weighed as early as May 30 from those haunts, and Art White in Greenport had fish to 9 lbs. from East Marion in the Greenport bait shop's ledger. By June 20, Huntington catches were dominating the scene, but a few days of superb fishing by the Nancy Ann boats and by the Prime Time III raised hopes for the eastern Sound. Tony Bayuk weighed an 8½ off Hortons and there was one fish over 13 lbs. reported at Warren's by Chris Cyprus as well. A large body of 2.4 lb. fluke moved into 15 to 25 feet of water inshore of the trawlers between Mattituck Inlet and Hortons until about July 11; then the fluking just died out east!

Meanwhile the torrid action in the zone from Bayville to Huntington continued and the summer went down as one of the best fluke summers ever. Lou Tinto had the largest fish of the year, a 13.12 weighed at Huntington Prop before August 1. Also recorded by the Cedars were Ed Burke's 13.0 and Alexis Iaconno's 12.4.

Scup action was steady for most of the summer with some slam-bang activity in the eastern zone after Labor Day. The Glen Cove Sport Shop weighed the largest porgy of the season for Bob Storcz, a huge 4.0, but jumbos to 3.14 were duly put on the Greenport scales by Dave Brennan of the Peconic Star and Larry Porter of the Brand X.

The first scup of the year were sea porgies to 2 lbs. in the Peconics that arrived a week before Memorial Day. Charlie Burke had a catch off Makamah on the Sound before the May 30 issue and Ralph's in Mount Sinai was marking fish off Rocky Point buoy 9 by June 6. The Caraftis Fishing Station in Port Jeff had a good summer on scup, and both the Mattituck Fishing Station and the Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station had solid inshore action from the Fourth of July until the end of October. Some of the biggest scup came from some pods off the Inlet around Columbus Day and from the Fisher's Island schools late that month. Western Sound party craft like the Apache also had their innings in the early fall.

The year 1985 was even better for tautog than 1984, which scarcely seems possible! Again, the fall run was superb with large fish sizes. A turn to colder air temperatures in the late season put off the crowds, which discouraged a few of the skippers; weekend winds didn't help. Nevertheless the largest fish of the season came late despite winds and strong moon tides. If there was any shadow on the season, it came in the form of Eklof Marine's Barge E-24, which sunk off Fisher's Island in 200 feet of water on November 23. The barge held some 840,000 gallons of viscous number 6 fuel oil and cannot be raised until next May. One wonders what will happen to the highly productive Fisher's zone if the raising is not successful, or if the barge leaks during or before the operation. The relatively small spill of 1000 gallons during the sinking late in November had its impact along Montauk shores and cleanup is still proceeding.

Tautog were already in print for the May 2 issue and Dom Cerbone's pools were recording fish of 7 lbs. or better. Jack's Bait on City Island had 3 fish from 10.6 to 11.0 on its scales, fish taken by George Heading, Art Leavy and Scott Lindsey. Rich Schaller had a 10.5 weighed at Four Winds and John Dorniak put an 11.9 on the scales at the Glen Cove Sport Shop.

The Greenport and Orient fleets had their innings during the fall run after the middle of September fishing around Plum Island, the Gulls, and Fisher's Island. There were so many tautog over 12 lbs. that it was difficult to win boat pools with mere 10 lbers. Two bulldogs of 14.1 were on the scales at Art White's after November 15 and Terrance Stuart's 14.10 was the best fish of the season on the Sound. It was taken on the Nancy Ann II. With the November 28 issue, some of the fastest fishing of the season was reported on the Klondike VIII and from the Brand X and Peconic Star as well. The Sound water temperatures had just dropped to 52 degrees, and that was pretty much the end of sailings for the year—with the fish still biting!

Bass fishing was pretty much the same story as always—like trying to write reports based on shadows on the

wall. For the sharpies who love the fish and persist in chasing them from west to east, results were pretty good, although schoolies and throwbacks dominated the picture on most nights. Dan Buckley's Nancy Ann II tried a number of full moon sailings on a reservations only basis, and results were pretty good, considering the difficulty of midnight deep-water bucktailing.

The first bass reports appeared in the May 30 issue. Davey DiLuca hauled a pair of linesiders into Jack's Bait and the largest went 16.11. Nevertheless we waited almost a month to get reports of large fish. Huntington Prop weighed a 41, and Warrens had a 29.8 for Ted Stone by June 21. Bass trolling off Lloyds was picking up by July 4 and Bob Nurenberger managed a 31.0.

As usual the best reports came late in the season beginning in October, not because August bass were lacking, but because of the secretive nature of the pros during the summer moons. John's Gun and Tackle weighed a 35.0 on October 19 and the Gut east of Orient produced a number of career fish too. Dan Buckley Jr. had a 52 and Fred Fiedler's 56 was the best of the season recorded through October 31. The Nancy Ann II managed 18 to 36 fish per three day moon during the last sailings, while schoolie catches were exceptional on the last days of the bass season in November. It was the finest catch-and-release fishing for those boats that could pick their days around Huntington according to George Valentine at Four Winds.

Wall-to-wall bluefish started in late May and remained until nearly Thanksgiving. The blues actually saved the eastern party fleet after the fluking died, but most sports appeared worn out by diamond jigging after early September.

Night catches in the Peconics were dominated by blues by the end of May and the blitz on the Sound began building in mid-June. By the end of the month there were schools on top everywhere from City Island out to Pigeon Rip. Bucktailing, diamond jigging, wire line trolling, casting—any method had its innings, especially for fish ranging from cocktail to mid-chopper sizes. Slammers were not reported until mid-August when Jim Mazza showed up at Rocky Point Fishing Stop with a 17.8. From that time on nobody looked at such "small" sizes. Bowman's weighed a pair of 20s for Gerhard Spielmann and Four Winds weighed fish of 19.8, 20.8 and 21.10 for Hugh Chancey, Larry Chancey and Joe Carter. The last slammers and gorillas of the season were reported by Jack's Bait around the K Buoy in the November 21 issue.

Who's kidding whom about weakfish? Again, it's mostly a by-catch proposition except for a few sharpies who persist and do their homework. The first catch from the Peconics was a haul of 5 fish to 12.4 taken out of Captain Marty's by John Brandozian before May 9. The very best haul of the season was 33 on a night charter by the Nancy Ann just before Memorial Day. The Peconic Tourney, run by Ed Kopack at Warrens, had 70 entries and winners ranged from 6.1 to 12.11, virtually all taken at night.

The diatom bloom in the Peconic Bays turned off anglers to such a degree that it was impossible to tell if there were any summer weakfish around. However, the Sound did have a blast of good diamond jigging in mid-July. The outstanding fish of the season from the East End was Regina Anderson's new 20 lb. line class record, a 14.8, taken on June 22 on the Nancy Ann. This was topped by a pair of weaks taken late in the season on the Sound and weighed at Huntington Prop. Joe DiMaggio managed a 15.2 and Chris Bellock had an 18.0; the latter fish made the October 31 report, indicating the presence of large tiderunners well into the fall.

As I close the report, I note that the sun is streaming through the windows and that it doesn't really look like January outside. Somewhere on the Sound, there are probably flounder already stirring. Come to think of it, when you read these lines, St. Pat's Day won't be so far away, and the City Island boats may be following the dredges in Oyster Bay a month earlier than that!

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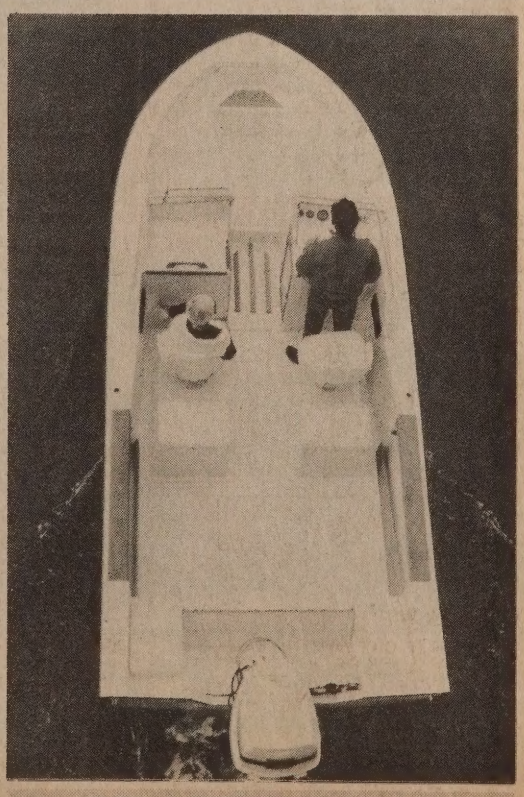


20' ADVENTURER

CONVENTIONAL JETTY ROD

by George Sanderson

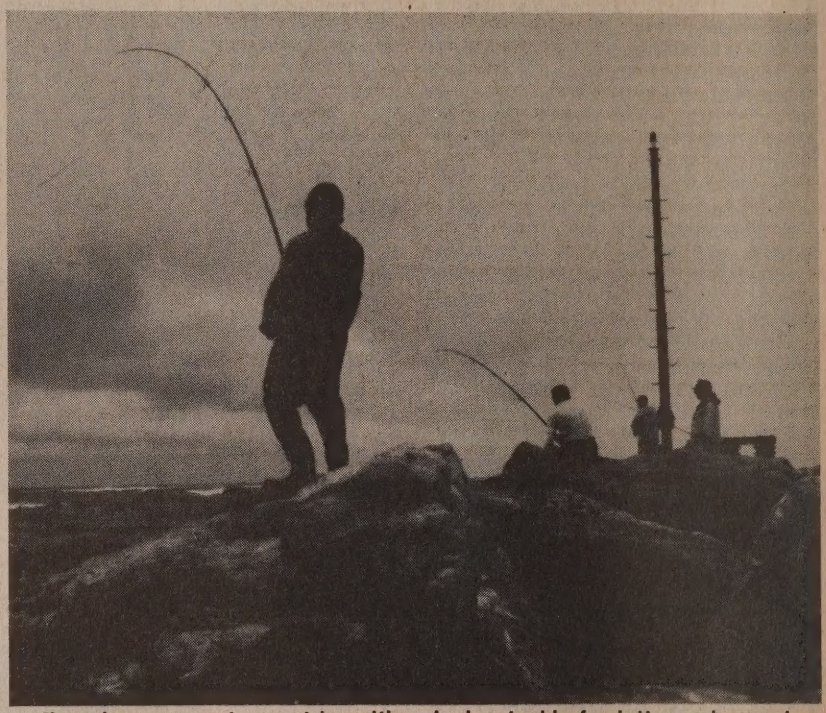
Most experienced jetty jockeys will agree that a conventional rod around 8 feet long with plenty of backbone is just the ticket for livelining, bait-fishing, bucktailing or throwing big plugs. The length of a good livelining rod is very important. Too short and you will have trouble when working a fish in close to the rocks. Too long and you will find it cumbersome to hold for long periods of time.

Why conventional? Most guys fish bait, live or dead, with their conventional reel set on free spool and use their thumb on the spool to control the line. When a fish picks up the bait it is usually best to let it run off with it. When the fish finishes his run, just flip the reel into gear, crank in any slack line and set the hook—hard! This routine is much easier to accomplish with a conventional reel.

I'm not saying that you can't accomplish this with spinning equipment—but most prefer conventional. Some examples of reels that will match up well with the rod I am going to detail in this article are the good old Penn Squidder and, if you have a few extra bucks lying around, the Penn 970 Mag. Spool your reel up with 20 lb. test line as this is standard fare for this type fishing.

I used a Lamiglas MB 108 3M blank to build my jetty rod. Originally the blank was 9 feet long; I removed about 8 inches from the tip until a #14 tip fit snugly. Remove a little bit at a time, making sure you don't remove more of the tip than is necessary for a proper tiptop fit.

When it comes to the handle assembly you have a couple of choices. The easiest is to just wrap the butt section of the blank with cork tape. Most conventional reels come with clamps that allow you to clamp them directly to the blank. I've built this rod with a cork butt for a few of my customers, but most like the more traditional reel seat and grip setup. I like to work with three sections of 6 inch hypalon when assembling a rod of this type. Using three sections of grip allows me to position the reel seat in a position that the customer will find the most comfortable. A Fuji graphite/composite seat is the perfect choice for a rod of this type. It's light, will not rust or corrode, and it won't absorb the cold as will a metal seat. Try a size 22 or 24; most of the time I go with the 22. See the diagram for spacing of the grips and reel seat. Keep in mind that this is the spacing for my rod; you might want to move the reel seat up or down a little.

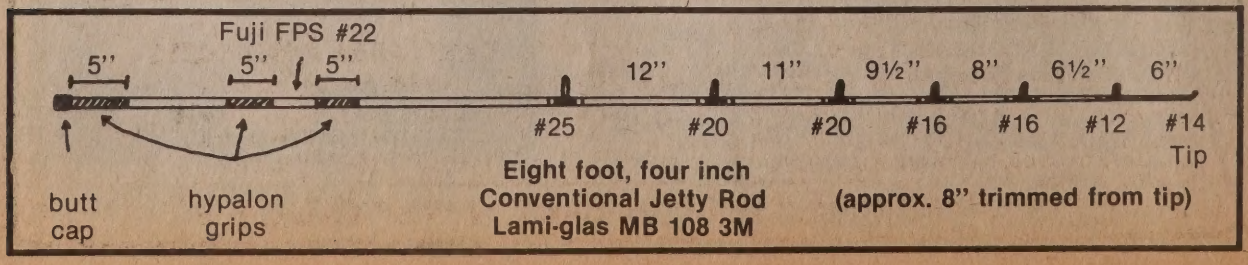


Though many casters get by with spinning tackle for jetty work, most sharpies depend on conventional gear.

Guides? The choice here is unlimited. Just make sure you use guides that are intended for a conventional rod. Don't use lightweight spinning rod guides. Fuji, Perfection and many others make guides that will do a good job on this rod. Mildrum guides (very expensive) are super on this jetty stick. It's always a good idea to underwrap the guides with a size A or D thread. Use a size D for the overwrap.

Use a tiptop that matches the guides you choose if possible. Some companies do not make a tiptop in size 14, so you may have to mix and match.

Upon completion you will have a rod that makes working from the rocks a real joy. When you hook up with your first big weakie, blue or bass, you'll enjoy it even more. For many of us, one nice fish from a jetty is worth ten from a boat!



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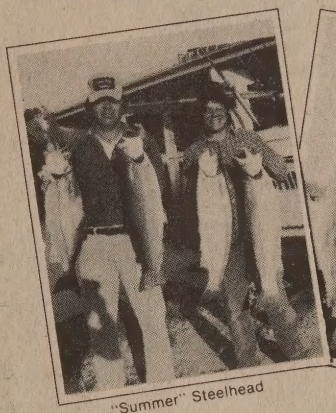

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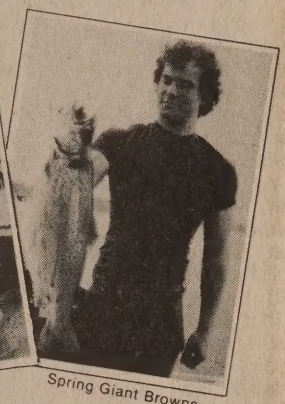

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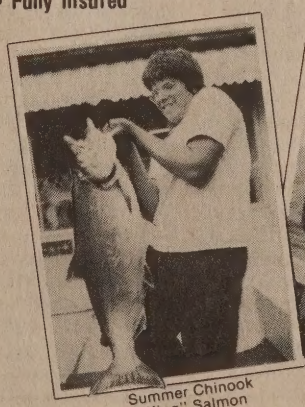

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FISHERMAN TRAVEL LOG:

VIRGIN ISLAND BONES

by Dick Mermon

If you are not a sailing devotee, the name Anegada most likely is insignificant. As a matter of fact, most people would not even pronounce it correctly. However, to those who have traveled the Caribbean and the native population of this tiny coral and limestone oasis, "Anegada" (pronounced Annagotta), signifies "sunken island," for its height is but 28 feet to the top of the highest tree. During the heydays of the tall sailing galleons and fleets of merchant caravans, the island was a sanctuary for many legendary pirates. Due to its almost invisible terrain, these freebooters lured many passing ships to their doom on the unseen shallow reefs surrounding the island. But it was not the bony skeletons of these vessels that aroused my interest; it was the statements from several British Virgin Islanders about the bonefish on the island.

From Tortola (the largest volcanic protrusion in the chain of islands) there are but two methods of travel to reach Anegada which is either by air, or water. Since airline schedules to the tiny island were limited and we would have to wait two days, it was decided to travel by boat. Sea travel also has its drawbacks, for if one is unfamiliar to the territory the boat could wind up on the reef. Therefore, only seasoned sailing people (like Rommie O'Neal who was our host and guide during our stay in the B.V.I.), charter boat captains and native fishermen should be hired for the trip.

Danger does not come from rough seas, for it is relatively a smooth trip, but there is a hazardous reef called "Horseshoe Reef," which extends 25 miles southward from Anegada to Virgin Gorda. The reef contains hidden staghorn coral pods along its wide shallow side that act as protecting walls for the shallow flats and island shoreline. Also, there are no channel markers to navigate through some of the reef's narrow passageways in order to reach the hotel's main dock. It is run by compass, water coloration and the point of your nose. The reef's opposite side maintains similar structure, but descends into 300 fathoms along its shoreline and is the long way around.

Anegada is no different than her sister islands as far as activity. Quiet and subdued with a small shopping area, but nothing like that of the American possessions. The island sustains but one hotel, the Anegada Reefs Hotel, with excellent facilities and absolutely not overly fancy or plush. The rooms are neat, clean and have showers in each, along with air conditioning which is basically maintained for night comfort while oscillating fans do the job during the day. If you seek opulent and ornate dining, where dress and jackets are required, this hotel is not the place. Leisure attire is the word and what the hotel lacks in atmosphere and lavishness, it makes up in quality edibles, delighting the palate of any gourmet. The local native cuisine is delightful for a change of pace, but my recommendation is the barbecued crayfish, fresh from the sea and weight is always over 4 pounds. Night life here at the hotel is what you make it, for there is none except around a colorful outdoor bar.

Bonefishing was our target and Ted and I discovered it to be more than anticipated from the tales we heard. We did not have to go far to find it; in fact, the flats were right on our doorsteps. Directly in front of the hotel were two coral sand flats, separated by a deep, wide channel where the boat docked. The left shallows was rather small, but sufficient to support fish. Its outer edges were shielded with various clumps of flat coral, forming a barrier. Its right side descended into deeper water and there grew a vast plain of turtle grass which blended into the white coral sand flats. Conditions seemed perfect for a bonefish feeding grounds and a protected migration route to and from the area. Anticipation of hooking up with one of these silver streakers in this location sent my stomach quivering and Ted, without hesitation, made quiet tracks ahead.

As we waded, five bonefish appeared about 30 yards in front of Teddy, near the flats dropoff. The tips of their tails and dorsal fins protruded from the unbroken surface slicing a lazy wake as they swam inward. Suddenly, in unison, the group poised, nosed down and lifted their tails from the water, exposing the entire fork. It was as though each fish decided to stand on its nose and wave their tails at us. These bones had to be every bit 8 to 10 lb. fish in weight and were totally oblivious to our presence. Ted worked closer to the feeding fish which had muddied up an area about 10 feet in diameter in the shallow water and cast a tiny pink bucktail slightly ahead of them. He allowed it to settle, then gave the lure a slight twitch, activating it. Two bones responded to the pink artificial's motion and in an instant, Ted was fast to our first Anegada bonefish. After three tremendous runs and a few short dashes from left to right, the fish was lifted slightly from the water, unhooked and released. We both estimated that bone to weigh 8 or 9 lbs. and probably the others were in a similar class.

From that flat, Ted and I, blind cast into the deeper water between the two flats and in doing so, accounted for one bonefish, three small barracuda, one ladyfish, six jacks and four lost jigs cut off by some unknown toothy critters.

The next day, Clinton Vanderpool, our guide while we were on Anegada, took Teddy, myself and Rommie to his "land of the big bones" and explained in his native lingo.

"I'll show you thom, mon, but you gotta cotch thom."

The stories Ted and I heard were materializing before our eyes. Bonefish, 50 to over 100 at a time were schooled and mudding tremendous areas of the flats between the reef's outer edge and the shoreline. The water depth ranged from three feet to ankle deep and the bottom was bleached white hard coral sand, totally free of any hazardous coral,

(Continued on next page.)

Teddy Allison lifts the first Anegada bonefish we encountered.

Rommie O'Neal (left) and Clinton Vanderpool (right) estimate this bonefish to go close to 10 pounds prior to releasing it.

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OUTBOARDS by **YAMAHA**

only a small cluster of turtle grass protruded every now and then. It was an awesome sight, to watch these so-called shy "gray ghosts" not spook from man or boat and accept our artificial offerings as though they were candy. In fact, several times all three of us were hooked-up at the same time, landing all three fish to boot.

Bonefish are not the only gamesters available on the Anegada flats. Permit, known as "high forehead ladies" here, cruise the outer edges closer to the coral heads seeking small, fingernail size green colored crabs. I discovered this while wading knee deep water, casting blind along the flats dropoff to see if there were any other species there. My leadhead jig became snagged and as I reached down into the water to dislodge the lure there, not two feet from it, facing the pink colored artificial were two permit in the 30 lb. class. Before I could remove the lure and recast, the "ladies" made tracks. Tarpon (they are called bass), can be taken at the mouth of the island's only brackish water lagoon, along with barracuda, jacks, ladyfish and even snappers. Gold or silver spoons like the Hopkins Shorty, in 1/4 oz. size are best, but the treble hook must be replaced with a single style to prevent excessive snags.

The island has no facilities to purchase any type of fishing tackle, not even a hook. Therefore, it is highly advisable to bring all the necessities such as spinning rods and reels, including extra spools of line. The fishing is suitable for light tackle from 2 to 10 lb. test and it is a fly fisherman's haven. These bones respond equally well to flies as they do towards lightweight (1/8 to 1/4 ounce in weight) leadhead jigs in hues of pink, white, beige and yellow. A pair of pliers are also essential for dislodging a hook from any unwanted toothy critter. And, of course, sun screen to protect yourself from the hot sun.

Travel arrangements to reach Anegada can be made through a travel agency, but for direct information you may call the British Virgin Islands Tourism office in New York City, (212) 696-0400. The Anegada Reefs Hotel can be reached by writing directly to them at: Anegada Reefs Hotel, Anegada, British Virgin Islands, Attn: Lowell and Vivian Wheatley and mention my name.

There is no direct way to this bonefish paradise from the United States. The easiest way is a direct flight to either San Juan, Puerto Rico, or St. Thomas, then Air B.V.I. to Anegada. Be sure to have available a valid passport or your birth certificate for proof of citizenship.

Although there are more than 200 registered shipwrecks located around the reefs of Anegada, these are not the bones I speak of. It is the gray ghosts of the coral flats which dominate the scene. "Hey mon, all you hov to do is cotch them."

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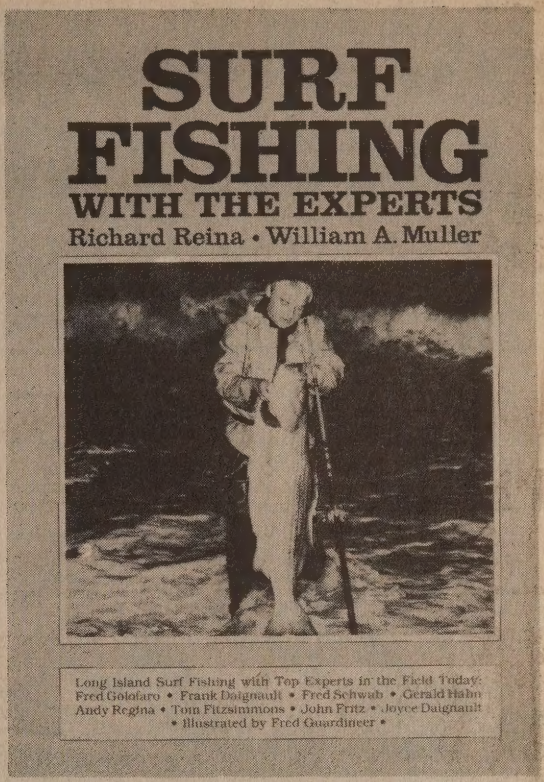
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SOME THIS AND THAT

by Matt Ahern

Volstead's Folly. Ever hear of it?

Hollywood film makers reaped millions because of it; they still do. Actually it was called the Volstead Act and became law in 1919, and was repealed in 1933. In force for a mere 14 years, its effect on the nation can be compared only with major calamities such as the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Our great country still feels the effect of both. Still in the dark? Then you must be a young fellow because old-timers know it well. The Act was commonly called Prohibition; and it led to some wild and woolly times.

You have every right to ask what has Prohibition to do with fishing. The answer is simple enough, though. Not a thing directly, but plenty indirectly.

For instance, if you were in the market for a fishing boat those days, there were several ways to go about it. You could have one built to your specifications; you could visit a broker; you could talk turkey to an owner who wished to sell—or you could journey to South Ferry at the tip of Manhattan Island. And many fishermen did exactly that.

Why? What was the attraction?

Well, behind the old Aquarium at South Ferry, and slightly to the north, was a huge boat basin. This impoundage contained locally captured rum runners—each and every one up for sale by your Uncle Sam. And those boats were cheap! So cheap that I thought they must be a drug on the market. And I guess maybe they were at that, for every few days additional boats were added to the rapidly growing fleet. I'd been told some were 200 footers, though I never saw one that large. But there were some dandy boats there. A fisherman's dream come true.

These boats were in perfect condition, usually with powerful, souped-up engines, installed, I'm sure, with the fond hope that they could out-run Uncle's speedy patrol vessels. Because of this, there must have been some stirring times out there when night descended on the New York Bight. Some boats made it through those patrols, of course. Those which did not were impounded at South Ferry.

Naturally, as a kid who loved fishing with a passion, I was intrigued by anything that smacked of the sea—which, of course, included captured rum running boats. I just had to see those boats at close hand; but there was one slight hitch. Unless accompanied by an adult, children were not permitted on board. But actually this was really no great problem, for I can recall no boatman or fisherman who refused my request to be taken aboard as a family member—nephew, son, or whatever.

One of the things I'd look for as soon as I got aboard were bullet holes. I never found one, although my vivid imagination told me that each little nick I'd noticed were indeed "close calls." and perhaps those rust spots weren't really rust spots at all, but carefully concealed dried blood. I now believe that in my kid-like fantasies, every night off the south shore of Long Island must have been likened to the Battle of the Coral Sea.

Of course, the "battle" consisted of who could out-run the other. And if the rum runners felt that indeed they would be captured, evidence must be gotten rid of. As they fled through the dark night with Uncle Sam in hot pursuit, overboard would go cases of whiskey. Because of this need for haste several times a night, commercial draggers of the day were always active in the area. Many of these areas dragged were known to be barren of fish life, indeed some called it the Sahara, but it did not matter. Drag on they did. How successful these commercial draggers were, we'll never know. But they must have struck pay dirt now and again, for they kept coming back for years.

The closest involvement I ever had happened one spring day while ling fishing south and east of the old Ambrose Lightship. This was back in 1931 and I was breaking in as mate aboard (you guessed it) the old Rose R II out of Canarsie.

We were doing pretty well with the ling, as we always did when fishing this area. Because the day was so warm and beautiful, we spent most of our fishing time drifting instead of at anchor. From that area we occasionally caught white hake, not too many, but it was a rare day when several weren't decked. I recall I had two small ones and when a shout for the gaff came from the bow, I felt certain it was for a good size hake, which usually ran about 18 to 20 pounds.

But this fisherman didn't have a hake.

There, snagged on the bottom hook of his drop line was a weed festooned and barnacle encrusted case of whiskey. I stared at it with amazement. I might have been 17 years old

at the time, but I wasn't foolish enough to gaff that case. No, sir; not me. One bad move on my part and it would be goodbye case of whiskey. And from the childish cries of delight I heard about me, should I cause that whiskey to return to Davy Jones, I would surely follow suit.

Finally, the skipper came out of the wheel house, took the gaff and, as if handling a newborn baby, placed the gaff point at one corner of the case, tested it gingerly for security, and then slowly, ever so slowly, inch by inch and hand over hand, brought it over the rail.

There were a dozen unbroken pint bottles of whiskey in that case. The labels had disintegrated, but to this day I can see what was embossed on the sides of that case: "Golden Wedding Rye Whiskey. Bottled in Canada." This was the real McCoy. No poison bootleg hootch, this stuff. The skipper received a bottle to commemorate his deftness in gaff handling. What happened to the rest, I don't know; but I can tell you this: a good time was had by all long before we reached Canarsie that day.

Most of the stories I write in this vein have to do with party boat fishing. But while this type of fishing has always been my first love, I also did my share of rowboat and shore fishing in those long gone days of yesteryear. Of the two, I think rowboat fishing had the edge.

I had another boyhood chum along with Artie Leidecker and Aaron Feldman, and all those other guys I mention from time to time. Jimmy Anderson was his name. Jimmy was a great friend and if he had lived out World War II, I'm sure he'd have given Artie a run for his money. But he didn't; dying on a Sicilian beach, July, 1944.

Well, anyway, Jimmy and I often hired a rowboat at Barren Island to fish fluke or weakfish. And it was one of these fluke trips that scared the life out of us.

Fluke fishing was best between Barren Island and Roxbury (this was long before the Marine Parkway Bridge). There were never problems finding fluke (or weakfish, for that matter). Our three foot leaders and killie-baited 5/0 Sproat hooks seemed irresistible those days. Reach bottom, drift a few feet, and up would come a fluke. It was as easy as that.

I remember this June morning well—I'll never forget it.

We had been drifting about a half hour and I had just unhooked a fluke when Jimmy told me his rig was snagged on bottom. When this happened, we always dropped the anchor and then rowed to the obstruction, which was usually a patch of mussel bottom.

But this time the rig didn't pull free. After a few minutes, I suggested that Jimmy break off the line and quit fooling around.

"It's coming off bottom now," Jimmy said. "Sure is heavy. Must be a log or something."

He passed his rod to me and while he slowly handlined the rig to the surface, I sat back and began to reel in the slack. It was slow going, but gradually, whatever it was came within reach. Then Jimmy stopped bringing in the line and I saw him stare at the water, a look of amazement on his face.

"It's a dead man—look!"

I looked. And there, six feet beneath the rowboat, was the face-down undulating form of a man. His legs were outstretched and all I could think of for some reason was an opened stepladder. Jimmy's hook had snagged a trouser leg.

Jimmy stared at me. I stared back. Two thoroughly frightened boys.

"What are we gonna do?" he asked. "What are we gonna do," he repeated. "We can't tow it and we don't want it in here with us."

"Cut the line and let it go," I said. "Here," and I handed over the bait knife. But the problem solved itself. The hook pulled free and the body sank out of sight.

We lost interest in fishing then and there. We quit and rowed back to the station, never saying a word to anyone about what had happened, which I'm sure was the wrong thing to do. But when you're 14 years old...

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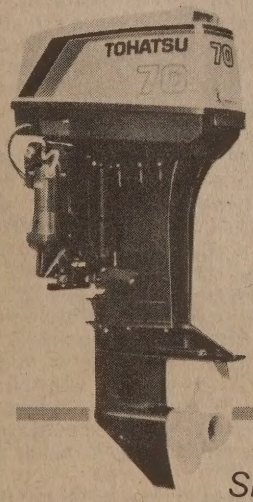

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SECRETS OF A MASTER ICE FISHERMAN

by Jim Capossela

One of the Metro area's better ice fishermen shares some of the secrets that have paid off for him.

The best fisherman I ever heard of was Del Canty, who floats around in a float tube in the frigid waters of Wyoming's Flaming Gorge Reservoir, sometimes at night in winter, and "usually catches several brown trout over 15 lbs., including usually one over 20 lbs. in a serious weekend of fishing."

I'm glad it takes him a SERIOUS weekend of fishing to accomplish that.

But the best fisherman I ever heard of around these parts is Bill Rutherford, of Westchester County. He's not an excellent ice fisherman—he's an excelent fisherman, period. His uncanny skills just seem to naturally carry over into wintertime angling.

Bil is an old-time lake trout troller who learned the discipline of this difficult pursuit long before space age technology came along. His exploits on Westchester's Kensico Reservoir are well known among anglers in the area. But he has photo albums full of pictures that will make most fishermen cry, and they're not just of big lakers.

A true student of the sport, Rutherford studies not only the fish and its habitat, but the equipment of the sport. His attention to the smallest details is remarkable. As I believe is so often the case, he rises above other fishermen not because he does something so markedly different, but because he pays attention to all the small details that lesser fishermen overlook or take for granted. Let's look first at some of the ways he customizes his ice fishing gear.

In his full length basement workshop, he must have 30 or 40 tip-ups, many customized to suit different species and many homemade. No matter what type the tip-up, though, he gives them a careful going over before dropping them through the hole.

Bill and his wife Kate with a pair of big yellow perch taken from Westchester's Croton Reservoir.

"You've got to tune up those tip-ups," he often says, meaning that store bought tip-ups often do not operate with the precision he demands.

Most of his underwater tip-ups are store bought, but he immediately doctors them up. For one thing, he tacks on little squares of wood at the ends of the **upper** cross piece on an opened tip-up. This is to even this piece with the lower piece so the device sits squarely on the ice and does not rock in the wind. He also removes the small metal spools and replaces them with much larger plastic ones. These are heavier and thus turn with more force to trip the flag more easily. Because of the larger diameter they also play out line to the fish more easily. In addition, they hold more line. Bill notes that it's important to keep the spools full to the top. This is because a fish will not always take the bait at an angle parallel to the way the line sits on the spool. If the fish pulls at a severe angle to the spool, the spool may not turn properly and the fish will feel resistance. A full spool will help alleviate this problem.

Tip-ups vary, but all feature some type of trip mechanism that releases a flag into the air when a fish takes. When you buy a new tip-up, never assume that it's tripping properly. There are several pieces of metal comprising the trip mechanism, and Bill will usually bend these around so the trip is working perfectly. He also adjusts the trip components for different sized bait. He has some homemade top-water tip-ups that can be adjusted to fish a small minnow or a large sucker or anything in-between. Usually, when he gets a flag it's the real thing.

Seemingly no piece of tackle is too small to escape his scrutinizing eye. An example is line markers. When you lower your hook to the bottom with a depth sounder, you then pick up a few feet (or however far off bottom you choose to be), then mark that spot with some type of device. This is so you can go quickly back to that same exact depth after you've caught a fish. One popular type of marker is a button, through which the line is threaded. I've also seen paper clips and other gadgets deployed.

(Some just use knots, but who wants to bother undoing these knots later?) Well, Bill found that buttons and their ilk would often get caught against the ice when a big fish coming up had the line tight against the hole's edge. His solution? Very flexible, plastic coated wire that is used as leg bands on chickens! This band will simply straighten out if there is pressure against it. Look for these "poultry markers" in agricultural stores; try Agway.

One tip I learned from Bill a long time ago is to keep the area of the hole free of ice chips. If it's below 32 degrees, the chips will freeze up and provide a perfect means of snagging your line when you're playing a nice fish. After you cut a hole, use your foot or skimmer to clear these chips for a good ways around the hole.

I asked him one time if he thought scent was an important factor in ice fishing. "Boy, **do** I" he said. "I know if I get one whiff of that gasoline on my bait, I'm finished."

When he uses a power auger, he has a separate pair of gloves that he uses just for cutting holes. Gasoline is one of the strongest of man scents, and by now it's pretty well documented that fish possess an exceptional sense of smell.

It's possible that one of the biggest reasons for Bill's success is the bait he uses. Like everything else, he doesn't just hang a piece of bait on the hook. He thinks about what he's doing.

"Most of the shiners sold around here in winter are Arkansas shiners that come from down south," Bill states. "Not only are they not natural to the water, but they're just not that active in winter. I hate using those things."

He catches most of his bait winter and summer, and he has elevated bait catching to a science in itself (he claims to have almost as much fun catching bait as catching game fish). He likes golden shiners, or "pond shiners" as he calls them, claiming that they are very hearty and active in winter.

"They are also found in all of these local lakes."

He has been with the conservation department during netting surveys and has seen how abundant golden shiners are. Thus, while sawbellies are now considered the "natural bait" in many watershed reservoirs, golden shiners are also natural. If you catch them yourself they're free, which is nice since large bait now goes for $4 to $5 the dozen in some places. It might also be added that sawbellies are not available from bait dealers in winter and you can't readily catch them yourself, especially in winter.

Bill will also use other bait that wanders into his traps; some other species he intentionally seeks. He likes dace and chubs, and he especially likes small suckers for lake trout.

"Shiners sit like statues unless you keep tugging at them. But a sucker will keep working, trying to get to the bottom," Rutherford says.

Bill took this trophy 8½ pound brown trout through the ice of a New York City watershed.

It was a 7 inch sucker, in fact, that played a part in his best ice-caught trout.

He was out on a dark, snowy day on an upstate reservoir, and he had several tip-ups rigged with suckers and set in deep water. One flag kept going up and when he gently held the line, he could feel the sucker going crazy. It was being worried by a big fish and that fish finally engulfed the sucker. The rest is local fishing history and if you've ever tried to play a **three** pound fish on a hand line through the ice, you'll respect the 14 pound laker that Bill lugged home that day.

Bill uses a standard two-funnel trap that many call a "killy trap" or just minnow trap. They are sold in a great many bait and tackle stores. He likes sweet bread, like buns or pound cake for bait. He favors very small ponds where only shiners live.

"If the pond has other fish—especially sunnies—you won't catch too many shiners. The shiners just can't compete and besides, if there is even just a few predator fish in the pond they will sulk around the trap and the minnow won't go in."

On the other hand, a larger pond may yield dace or suckers, and almost any small still-water is worth a shot. Bill recommends that you paint the trap an off-color brown or green, stating that a shiny new trap won't work too well.

Actually, nearly anything is liable to wander into your minnow trap, and there is little of this that Bill has failed to put to work on game fish. If crawfish are in the water you're trapping, they'll occasionally show up and they make a good winter bait, especially for smallmouth bass. Bill traps little streams, too, and here he likes the striped dace that he sometimes brings in.

"Those dace are a fine, cold water baitfish and fish like them because they're soft; they have no spines," Bill says. He'll also use chubs and horn dace if he catches them (Note: A chub was used to catch the biggest ice-caught trout I know of on the watershed, a 18 lb. laker that was taken two seasons ago.) He notes, though, to **always** check regulations on trapping bait.

Rutherford strongly emphasizes the need for light line on trout. In places where the biggest one he expects to catch is maybe 20 to 22 inches, he'll use a 4 lb. test. If he has a chance for a bigger brown or a laker, he'll reluctantly go to 6 lb., but never more. For pickerel and other rougher fish, he will use a 10 lb. test leader that may be only 10 feet long.

Like me, Bill loves nasty days. What looks like a lousy day to many other people is a gorgeous day to us. Misty, drizzly, cloudy days when the fog is rolling across the ice are tops. He also likes to be out when it's snowing or flurrying. He theorizes that when it's cloudy, the fish (especially trout) may be shallow, right under the ice. On brighter days, he'll often fish deeper, or just off bottom. Whatever the conditions, though, he's constantly experimenting (his wife actively fishes, and he calls her five tip-ups "the control group!").

"The worst thing that happens to some fishermen" he says, is that they have one really good day on the ice. Then they stick to whatever they did that day for the next ten years. You can't do that. What worked one day might not work another. You have to experiment."

GETTING THE MOST FROM MARINE ENGINES

by Robert C. Enstam

Proper care and maintenance of your boats power plant can mean years of trouble-free service.

In colder climates, the winter months have historically been the time to put boats and their engines away to await spring and the start of the new boating season. In warmer climates, the shorter days of winter often mean that boats are used far less frequently, if not actually laid up.

The steps which you or your mechanic take when winterizing your engine(s) will be a major factor in determining if, and when, you will have to repower (or overhaul) the engine(s). Modern gasoline and diesel engines are proving themselves marvels at efficiently producing power for long periods of time. Smaller gasoline engines that you'll find in today's cars will easily go at least 100,000 miles without overhaul, if they're used often and for hours at a time. We all know a salesman who piles on a lot of miles in a short period of time and always seems to be driving a high mileage car. We also know an elderly person who hardly drives at all and whose car is a mechanical wreck with almost no miles on the odometer. The high mileage diesel in a car should go at least 200,000 miles and larger diesels like those found in the big 18 wheelers last about 500,000 miles before overhaul.

When we talk about boat engines we refer to how many hours are on the engine, not how many miles we've gone. A good conversion factor to use to get from miles to hours is 35 to 1. In other words, 35 miles on a car engine which has a life expectancy of 100,000 miles in a car should last about 2900 hours in a boat.

Let's see if we can translate this into something that makes sense. If we can find some lucky person who is

Inboard engines can last a long time if you take care of them by preventing rust build-up over the winter.

constantly using his boat, his boating season might run from May 1st through October 31st. Our lucky friend might also be able to use his boat every Saturday and Sunday during those six months and use the engine for six hours each day. Under those very rare conditions, our friend would only have to put a total of 306 hours on his engine during 1984. And based on our 2900 hour engine life, he should be able to use his engine that way for about 9½ years before it would need repowering. Of course, if our friend used his engine less than 306 hours per year, it should last longer than 9½ years. Using a small diesel under these same conditions, the engine should last twice as long.

Now that we've taken a look at what should be, let's take a look at what is and see if we can't analyze the difference between the two. An obvious difference is that the boat is stored for several months each year and the high mileage car isn't. If friction was the primary cause of engine wear, engines would last about the same number of miles or hours, regardless of how quickly or slowly the miles or hours were accumulated. But engines don't, in fact, last for anywhere near equal miles or hours. That is because engine life is shortened more by chemical wear than by frictional wear.

Modern engine oils are formulated for use in engines in active service, which produce organic and strong acids as a result of fuel combustion. These acids are neutralized by the alkaline additives in the engine oil. The stored or seldom used engine is horsepower of another color, however. Constantly changing temperature and humidity result in condensation (water) forming on the inside of the engine. The engine oil, which did such a good job of protecting the engine from wear due to acids, was never formulated to protect the engine against rust and corrosion due to water, because water doesn't exist for long in a running engine. It is driven off as vapor by the high heat in the engine. On the other hand, condensation stays in the idle engine and causes rust and corrosion.

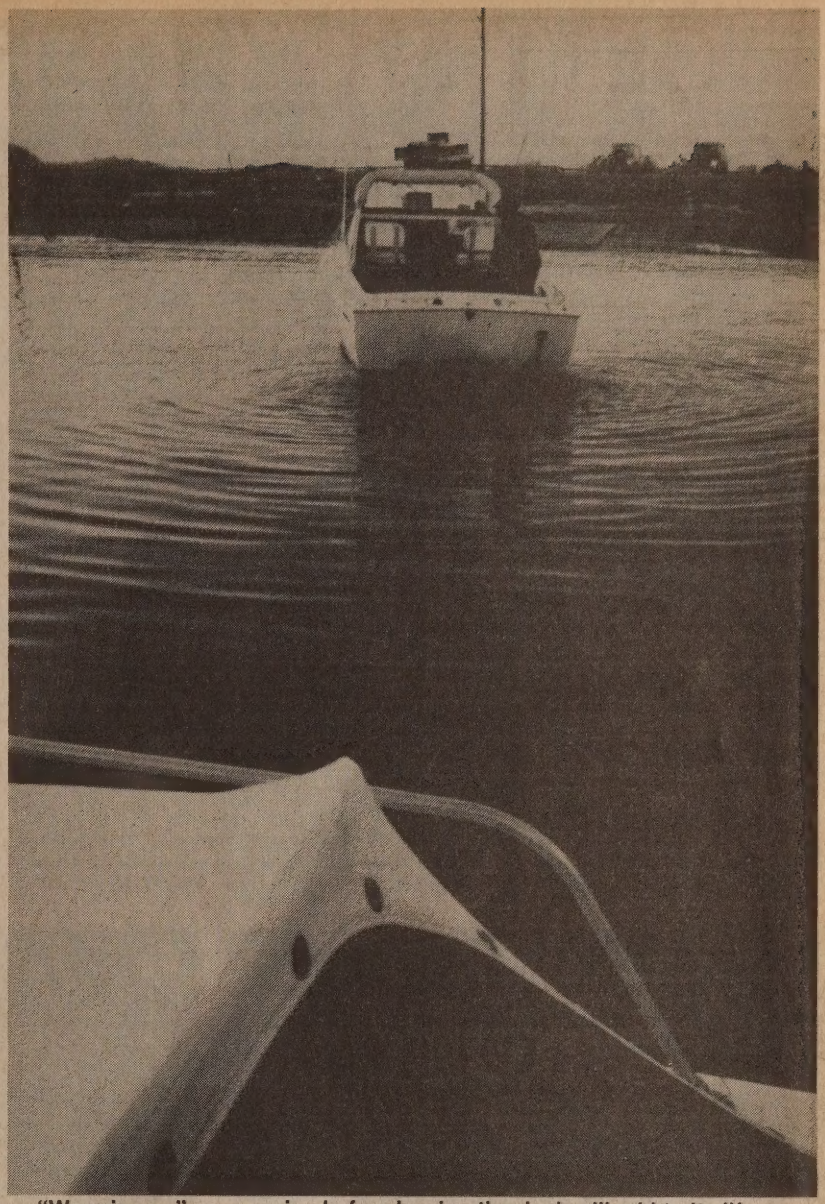
In engines which are routinely stored for several months each year, it's a fact that rust and corrosion cause more loss of metal than does friction when the engine is running. Auxiliary engines in sailboats also suffer from rust and corrosion during the boating season when they are in "active" use because they are often used only to move into or out of a slip or marina, and they aren't run long enough to fully warm up.

Now that we've looked at the major cause of short engine life and the need to repower, which is the pound of cure, let's look at the ounce of prevention. Mercury recommends its Quicksilver rust inhibitor be sprayed into cylinders when storing its engines. BMW recommends using a rust preventive engine oil. Volvo Penta is evaluating use of a rust preventive engine oil or additive for initial fill of its engines. A sensible new approach to the problem is a product aptly called "Engine Life Preserver Concentrate" which is marketed by Eye-Ess, Inc., 3206 Latigo Court, Oakton, Virginia, 22124. "Engine Life Preserver Concentrate" is a unique three-phase chemical inhibitor system which chemically bonds to the metallic surfaces on the inside of the engine and protects them from rust and corrosion for up to six months. The vapor phase inhibitor continuously vaporizes off the crankcase and "fogs" the entire inside of the engine. It's recommended for both gasoline and diesel engines.

Simple and economical to use, the product is added to clean engine oil at the time of layup or whenever the engine is going to be idle for a prolonged period. Five minutes of running the engine will thoroughly mix the inhibitor with the oil and circulate it throughout the engine. That's all there is to it! When the engine is reactivated, just turn the key and go. There's no need to change the oil again.

In addition to using a rust and corrosion inhibitor during idle periods, each and every time you start your engine make sure you run it long enough, under load, to fully warm it up.

If you haven't checked lately, you might be surprised to learn that engine overhaul is almost sure to cost you $1,000 and a new engine will cost at least $3,000. These are minimum costs. The overhaul cost for a large Detroit Diesel V8 will run about $5,500. Using common ene, you should be able to pass your beloved boat, with its well-maintained engine, to your children and even your grandchildren.



"Warming up" your engine before leaving the dock will add to its life expectancy.

TIN IDEAS

by Pat Abate

Procrastination has very few rewards, but it does give you plenty of time to think and formulate plans. For several springs, the appeal of a boat for flounder and school bass fishing was high, but as June rolled around and the surf fishing improved, those thoughts were forgotten. As the seasons passed, I accumulated ideas about what I would want in a boat. Practicality and efficiency dictated a hull that can be trailered with a four cylindered car, a shallow draft that can drift over boulders and bars that attract striped bass and enough freeboard to keep out a quartering chop.

Aluminum was chosen because in the 16 to 17 foot range it is the lightest weight hull, fairly common in a semi-vee bottom and can be easily pushed off a rock or sand bar. Until recently, tin boats had very few creature comforts; most were just a hull with three or four rowboat style bench seats that can be easily removed. Whatever boat I bought would wind up customized, so ideally I looked for a bare hull; and several Novembers ago, the right one came along.

The sketch pad was the starting point; years of accumulated ideas were put to print. Once you start removing rivets and drilling in an aluminum hull, you're committed. Plans were to use the boat for some bottom fishing and a little livelining, but primarily it was a casting platform. Firm footing, clear uncluttered space and plenty of storage was needed. Rods, gaff, net, paddle, plugs, pliers and controls all had to be within easy reach, yet not be in the way when whaling lures.

The boat started out as a used 16' 6'' MirroCraft (their heavy duty model) now powered by a 40 hp Merc. First step in the modification was to remove the seats. However, these seats provide rigidity to the hull and contain most of the foam flotation. Rigidity and flotation must be replaced. Most construction was done with 1/2 inch exterior AC plywood, the console and box were fiberglassed over. All fasteners were either aluminum or stainless. Don't even think about brass screws on an aluminum hull. Another useful product was an epoxy called J-B Weld. I skeptically bought it at an auto parts store where they advertised it would patch anything aluminum. I filled in the rivet holes in the hull and they've held for three years.

Ideas still flash. A grab rail would add some safety; a raised foredeck for additional casting room would be neat; and, an electric trolling motor may become a reality.

Photo One: The boat is a 16' 6'' MirroCraft. Cosmetically the hull is no beauty, but surprisingly seaworthy and stable. Notice the white circle halfway down the hull—that's the baitwell overflow.

Photo Two: Looking from the stern the rigging is efficient and practical. A side console was chosen over a center console to provide more standing area—and access to the ''box.'' The side console sits on a curved section of the hull where you couldn't stand anyway. Less than 10

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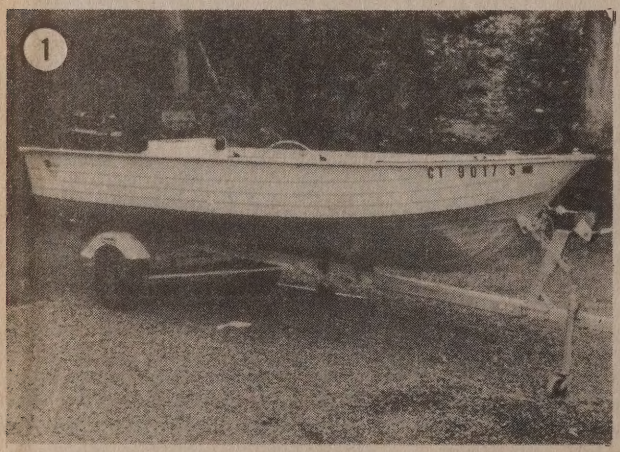

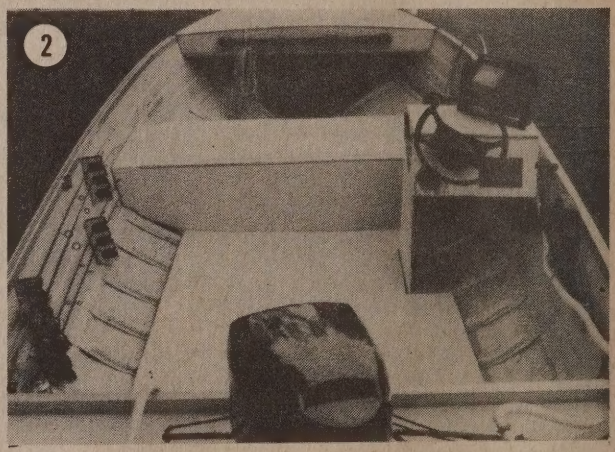

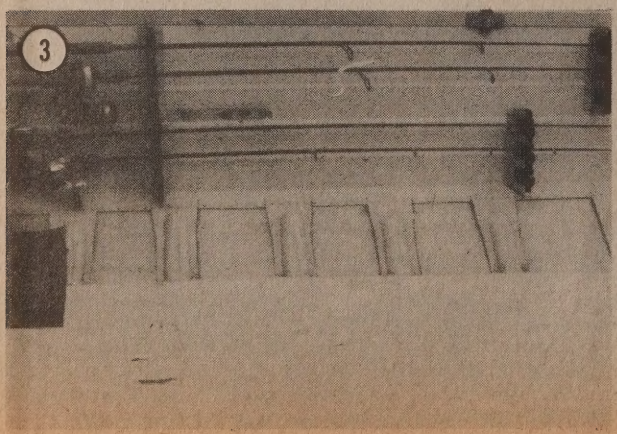

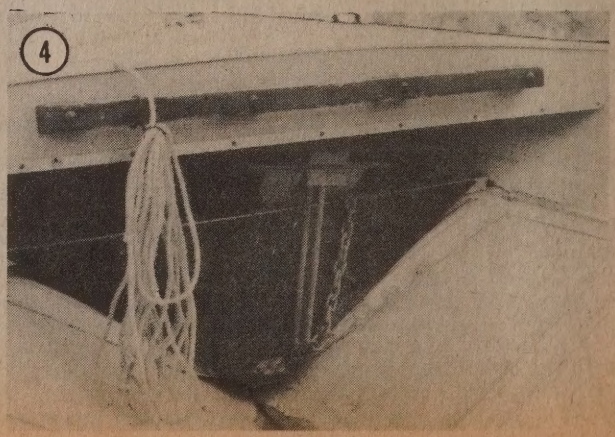

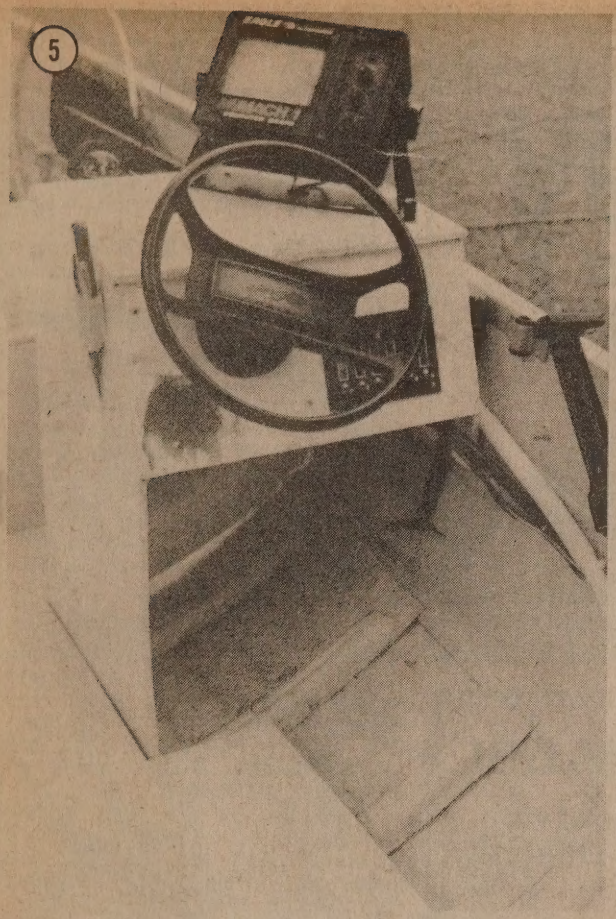
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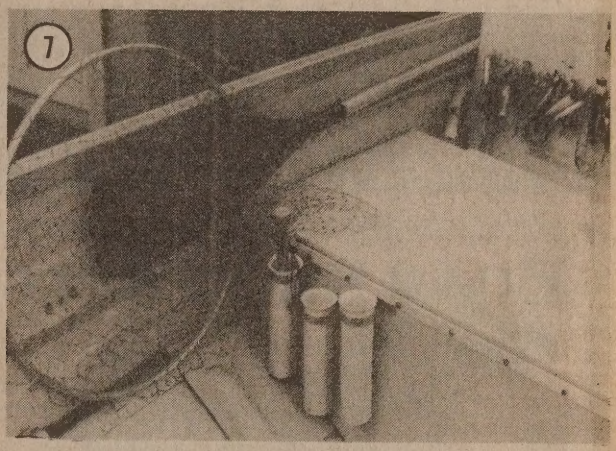
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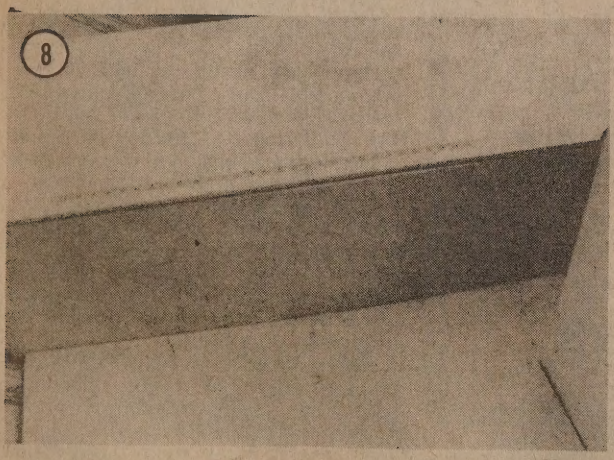
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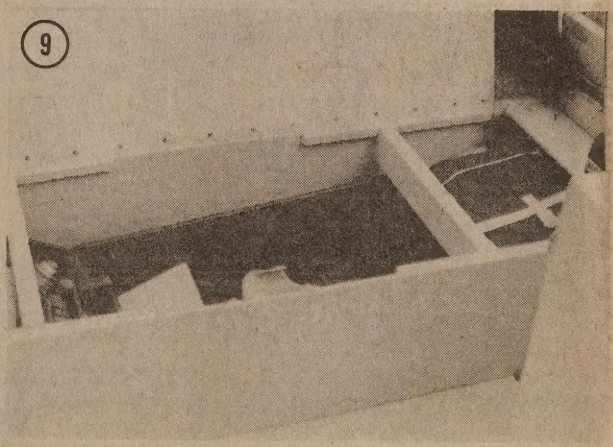
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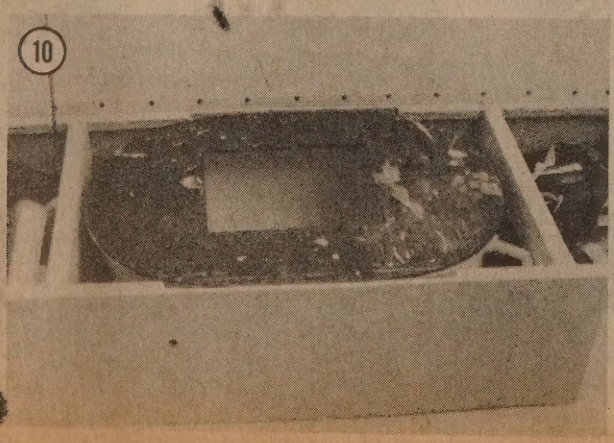
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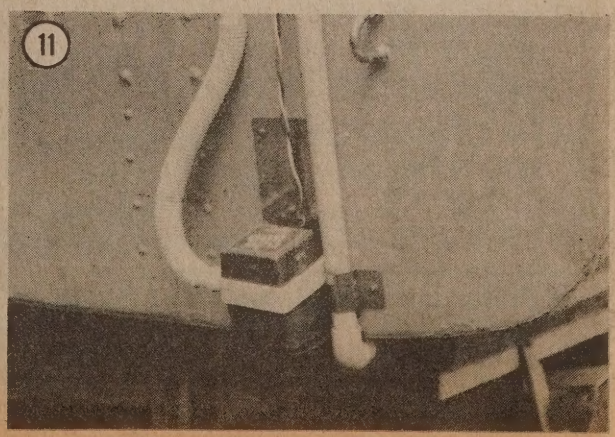
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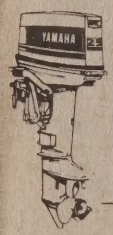

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percent of my time in the boat is behind the wheel; the other 90 percent is spent standing. Deck is 1/2 inch plywood painted with a non-skid finish, decking is supported with 2X4 stringers and should be foamed in-between deck and hull. The "box" sits about two-thirds of the way to the bow and is bolted to the hull on each side.

Photo Three: Horizontal rod storage consists of six foam slots in aluminum frames bolted to the hull. Two companies, Tempo and G-lox manufacture them.

Photo Four: Anchor storage is provided under the bow cover by installing a triangle of plywood mounted between a piece of aluminum angle and the first rib. The launching line is held to the grab rail by a piece of #12 insulated wire, very handy stuff.

Photo Five: Console was constructed of plywood and fiberglassed over. Mounted atop is the recorder; underneath you can see the mounting bracket for the CB radio, a screw-in antenna mounts on the console when needed. Compass is mounted on the forward edge of console, wiring and connections all meet under the console and are accessed by removing two screws. Pliers and knife are handily stored in a plastic sheath on the side of the console.

Photo Six: In the front of the console and out of harm's way is a school of plugs and jigs. The lure holder is a "Plug-Buggy" available by mail order from Bass Pro Shops.

Photo Seven: Net and paddle handles are wedged between the console and hull providing secure storage and quick availability to push off that unexpected rock. Three vertical rod holders on each side of the box provide additional rod storage. A cooler is held to the bow side of the box with shock cord (not shown) to hold fish.

Photo Eight: The "box" with the hatch down. Built of 1/2 inch plywood and glasses, it provides storage and rigidity to the hull. The hatch is painted with the same non-skid paint that's on the deck, glued to it is a 30 inch measuring tape.

Photo Nine: The "box" provides ample storage for tackle, clothing, tools, life jackets and just about everything else. It functions like a kid's closet: if the room looks neat, don't open the closet. There is no bottom to the "box"; avoid enclosing anything that will hold water and not drain. Don't obstruct drainage for the entire length of the hull.

Photo Ten: Same box with a 30 gallon live well installed. The plumbing remains rigged and the tank put aboard only when its use is planned. The bait well drains overboard through the hull. The intake hose runs along the standard gun'l from the stern.

Photo Eleven: A Rule 800 bilge pump mounted below the waterline provides water to the baitwell when stationary, a 90 degree elbow on a PVC pipe draws water when under way.

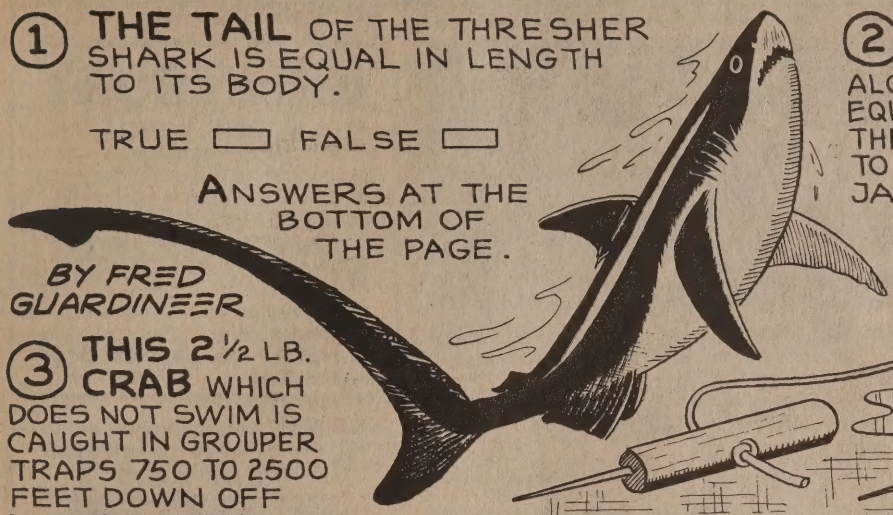
THE FISHERMAN QUIZ

BY FRED GUARDINEER

1 **THE TAIL** OF THE THRESHER SHARK IS EQUAL IN LENGTH TO ITS BODY.

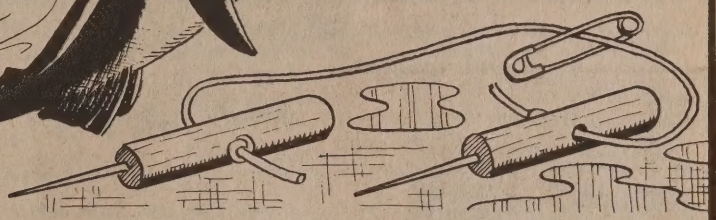
TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

ANSWERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.

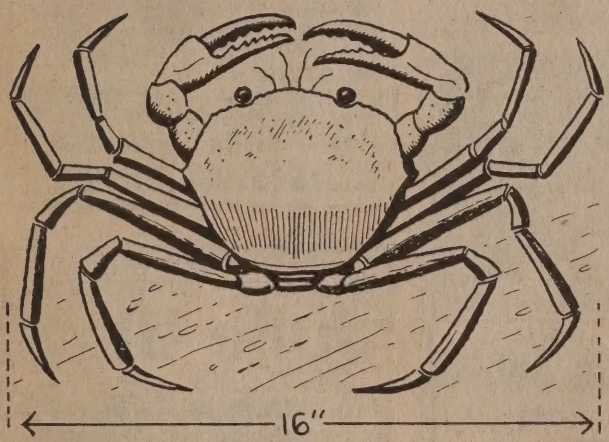


2 **ICE FISHERMEN,** ESPECIALLY WHEN ALONE, OFTEN WEAR THIS EQUIPMENT AROUND THEIR NECK AND PINNED TO THE FRONT OF THEIR JACKETS... MADE OF ICE PICKS, THEY ARE A PAIR OF

--- -----



3 **THIS 2½ LB. CRAB** WHICH DOES NOT SWIM IS CAUGHT IN GROUPER TRAPS 750 TO 2500 FEET DOWN OFF FLORIDA AND IS MARKETED UNDER THE NAME ------

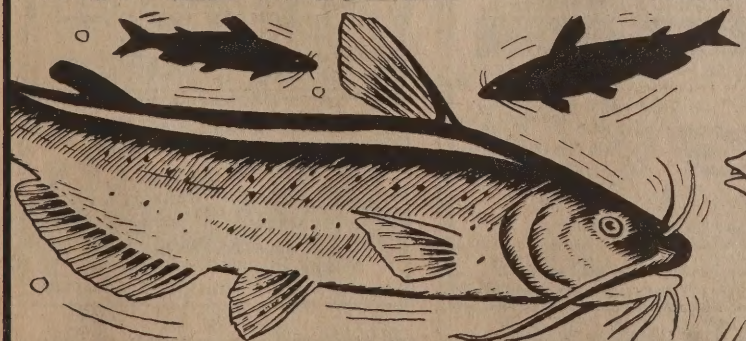


4 **N.Y. STATE DEER HUNTERS** UP IN THE MOUNTAINS SAW AND SHOT MANY OF THESE CANINES, WHICH EVEN IN SILHOUETTE CAN BE IDENTIFIED AS A ---

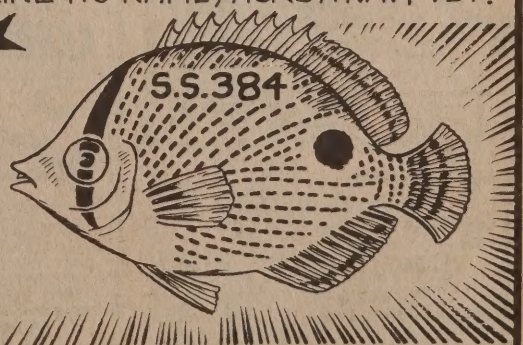
FOX ☐
WOLF ☐
COYOTE ☐

5 **WHEN CATFISH** IN JAPANESE FISH TANKS BECOME AGITATED AND WIGGLE THEIR WHISKERS THEY ARE PREDICTING AN EARTHQUAKE.

TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐



6 **DURING WORLD WAR II,** I SERVED ON THE SUBMARINE U.S.S. PARCHE (S.S. 384). WHAT KIND OF FISH IS THE PARCHE THAT GAVE MY SUBMARINE ITS NAME, ASKS A NAVY VET?



1 - TRUE. 2 - ICE CLAWS, TO ENABLE A FISHERMAN TO PULL HIMSELF OUT OF THE WATER IF HE FALLS THROUGH THE ICE. 3 - GOLDEN CRAB. 4 - COYOTE. THE TAIL CARRIED LOW IS DISTINCTIVE. 5 - TRUE. 85 % OF THE TIME. 6 - BOTH THE FOURE YE AND SPOTFIN BUTTERFLY FISHES WERE COMMONLY CALLED PARCHE', THAT COMMON NAME, IN USE DURING WORLD WAR II, IS NO LONGER USED FOR THESE FISH.

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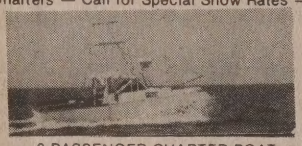

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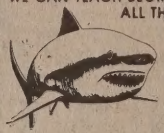

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SPECIAL NOTICE

Fisherman readers will have an opportunity to meet their favorite Fisherman staffer at this week's Sportman's Expo Wednesday (1/22) thru Sunday (1/26) at Nassau Coliseum. East End reporter Lorry Mangan will be at the Fisherman booth from 1PM to 8PM on Friday with Freshwater columnist Tom Schlichter scheduled to be on hand from 7PM to 10PM on Friday. John Raguso, author of the highly popular Wreck Series will be in the booth on Saturday. Also manning the booth at the show will be Bill Muller, Fred Golofaro and Stu Miller. A free Sekora Diamond Jig will be given to all those signing up for a new subscription (or renewal) to The Fisherman. Aspiring surf fishermen will also have an opportunity to purchase the book "Surf Fishing With The Experts".

East End REPORT

Fishing reports were totally lacking from this end of the Island with most of the talk concerning the past New York Boat Show and the upcoming New York Sportsmen's Expo at the Nassau Coliseum.

MONTAUK

Members of the Montauk Captain's Association will be manning a booth at the Expo and its a great opportunity to discuss Montauk fishing techniques with some real experts. Its also a good time to book charters for the upcoming season if Montauk fishing is on your agenda. You can also get details on the M.C.A.'s Annual Charity Shark Tournament slated for July 12th and 13th. For non-boat owners looking to participate in this popular affair, you might want to consider booking a

John Graham and Pete Coyne with some of the 40 blues to 18 lbs. caught on a 9-24 trip aboard the Montauk based, "Marlin IV."

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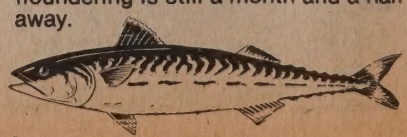
Capt. Zac Grossman of the charter boat **Mako Express** reminded that he will be manning his own booth at the Expo. He will have continuous videos of shark, tuna, marlin and bluefish action and will also be raffling off a day of big or small game fishing aboard the Mako Express. Zac is also an experienced speaker and any fishing clubs looking to schedule some entertainment might want to discuss the skipper's availability for their own club.

South Shore REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

Fishing opportunities in this area continue to be limited to a pick of cod on the ocean wrecks, some white perch in the tidal rivers and some pretty decent trout fishing in the tidal reaches of the Connetquot and Carmans Rivers. Sporadic reports of a few flounder being picked in the Heckscher area by clammers and one or two diehard anglers but any serious floundering is still a month and a half away.



GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Over at **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue**, Joe Modica spoke of some nice trout coming from the Carmans and Connetquot on nightcrawlers. They do have nightcrawlers in stock. Ice had posed a problem for perch anglers prior to the warm spell but since the mild weather no one has reported back with any perch scores. A few guys did stop by the shop enroute to giving the flounder a shot but they too failed to report back.

Over at **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale**, Al Colban reminded that the crew from the shop will be on hand manning the J & R booth at the Expo. Stop by and say hello and also take a look at some of the finest custom rod work on the East Coast. On the fishing front, a couple of locals along with a few clammers reported picking a few flounder between Heckscher and Buoy 2 in recent days. An increasing number of perch in the river during the warm spell being taken on nightcrawlers. Some nice brown and rainbow trout coming out of the Connetquot (Bubbles and Rattlesnake) with fish to 3 pounds checked in this past week. Good numbers of 10 to 16 inch fish being taken on Mepps spinner and worm combos.

Codfishing at Captree has been producing a pick of fish on days when the weather has cooperated. Capt. George Tweedy of the open boat **Capt. Scotty 3** reported in the neighborhood of 30 cod for Thursdays trip. John Kupres took that day's pool with a 30 pound fish. Friday saw just a handful of cod taken while both Saturday's and Sunday's catch fell between 20 and 25 fish. Most of the fish ranged from 8 to 20 pounds with a few fish in the 20 to 30 pound class mixed in each day. Some big blacks are mixed with the cod as well with most of the fishing still being done on the wrecks.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the open boat **Capt. Joseph II** reported a catch of 50 cod for 25 fares on Friday with a third of the fish falling between 10 and 20 pounds. He labelled both Saturday and Sunday as a slow pick. A few blackfish along with occasional pollock are mixed with the cod on some days. Charlie is dropping his daily schedule and will now be sailing 5AM Thursday thru Sunday and holidays.

The **Captree Boatmen's Association** will be manning a booth at this week's Expo. That will be a great place to discuss fishing in Great South Bay as well as outside of Fire Island Inlet with these knowledgeable skippers. Among the open boats represented will be the Capt. Dan, Capt. Rod, Captree Queen II, Capt. Joseph II, Miss Captree and the Capt. Whittaker. Charter boats on hand will be the Taryn Ann, Fishtale, Capt. Andy, Dixie, Lois Ann, Sea Ranger, Prime Time, Sea Bird, Shearwater II, Eagle,

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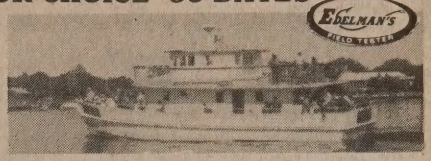

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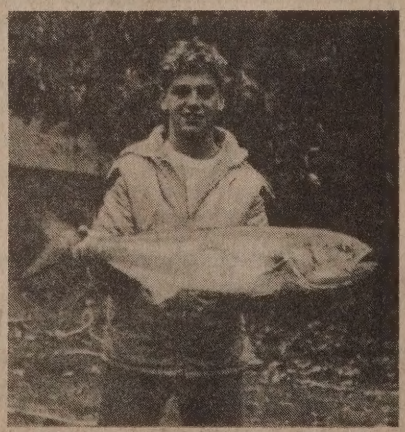

Fisherman subscriber David Kravitz shows the 18½ lb. blue he took from a Port Jeff beach on a bunker chunk back in October.

Captree Star, Blue Albatross and Frances Anne. Charter boats will be available for booking and now might be a good time to take advantage of some other dates as well. The fireworks display scheduled for May 25th as part of the Relight the Fire Island Light ceremony and the Annual Bay Shore Fireworks Display are two dates that should be booked well in advance if you want to be part of the festivities. Now is also a good time to assure yourself of some choice fishing dates as well.

Tom Healy of **Augies Bait and Tackle** in **Babylon** reported that renovations are moving along smartly and the shop will be back in full swing by this weekend. Stop by and say hello.

Over at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**, Mike Andreani reported that ice has been a problem in the creeks for perch fans but felt the recent warm spell had opened things up. No word on the perch however. Mike was on his way out the door to try them when we spoke on Monday morning. Quite a few trout reports coming from the Connetquot and a few guys did give the flounder a shot over the weekend but failed to report back. Mike did have one second hand report that a private boat late in the week put away 41 cod while working a piece of open bottom. Other details however were unavailable.

West End REPORT

with Stu Miller

We should be in the grips of winter, but it seems that winter's grip has been slipping lately. While some days during the week were frigid, the tail end of the week turned extremely mild and Sunday moist as well. The codfishing boats in our area sailed most of the week and on Saturday and Sunday and had decent catches, though numbers were not outstanding. There were, however, several very large fish caught. All action continues on wrecks. Dogfish have thinned out considerably with a few still found on wrecks and open bottom as well. A few flounder are being picked with reports mainly emanating from the Jones Beach piers.

WEST END BAYS/ JONES INLET

A call to **Causeway Bait and Tackle** in Wantagh provided the information regarding the flounder being taken by

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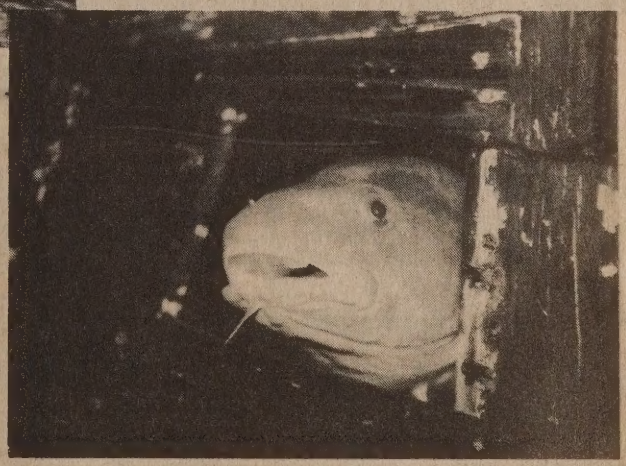

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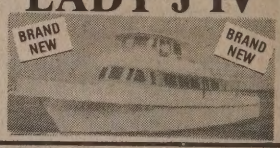

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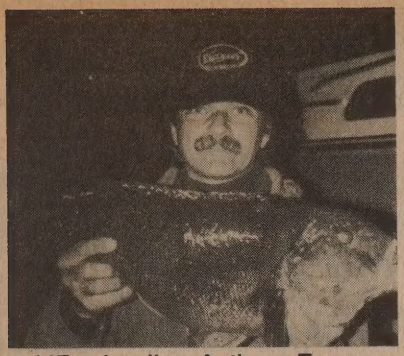


LIF subscriber Anthony Taverdecked this jumbo 12½ lb. "tog" aboard his boat, Finatic. He caught it last November at Crane's Neck.

some customers fishing the Jones Beach piers. The action has been sporadic said Mike, with some tides and days better than others. Fish are mixed, averaging out at 3/4 pounds.

Out of Freeport, Captain Richie Kessinger's **Starstream II** has been getting cod everyday and is still working the wrecks. On Thursday, Wantagh angler Jim Callahan bagged a 56 pound cod and on Friday, it was a 37 pounder for Queens angler Mark Rand. Saturday's catch was slightly over 50 cod, with just about the same number caught on Sunday.

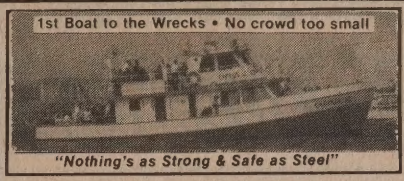
We hear from Skipper Jim Lanzarotta of the **Super Spray II** that cod action was good Thursday and Friday but only fair over the weekend. Cod have been running five to 15 pounds. Fares have also been having a decent shot at pollock. These hard hitting fish have been running five to 25 pounds and can really tear your arms out. Jim has also been concentrating on local and offshore wrecks and says that by the end of this past week the dogfish have not been found on open bottom.

Aboard the **Capt. Al** out of Point Lookout this past week, the skipper advised that Monday's local codding and blackfishing was fair to good, while the trips offshore Thursday and Friday were a good deal better. An example was a catch for Hector Martinez of Brooklyn of a 58 pound cod. Al said that Saturday and Sunday were off a bit and for awhile even the bergalls got lockjaw. Even so, fares had some cod each day. Fish have been going eight pounds and up, all on wrecks.

NEW YORK BIGHT

Over at **Mike's Tackle Shop** in Sheepshead Bay, Wee Willie tells of good whiting fishing all week long with Thursday providing excellent catches for fares on the open boats. Whiting have been going from a half pound to a full pail and from spikes to bats, depending on the day. The Wee one described the ling action as slow and blackfishing as just fair.

POINT LOOKOUT



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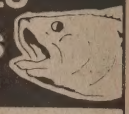

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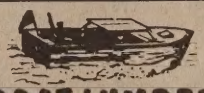

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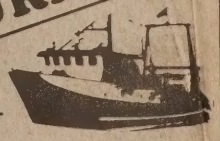

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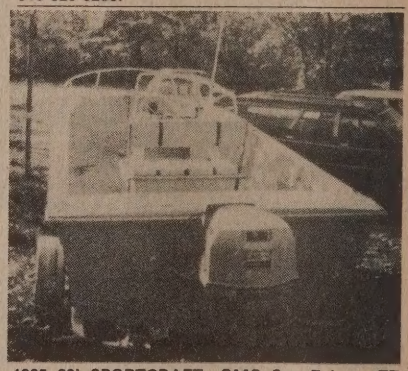

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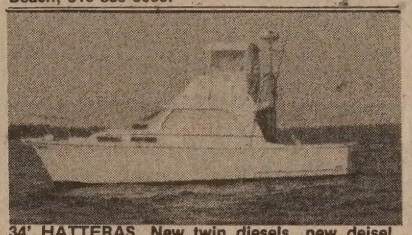

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LORAN Micrologic #3000. 100 way points, w/coupler antenna; instructions books. Easy to operate. $100 carrying case incl. Paid $1600; 2-yrs. old. Make reasonable offer. John Ricci, 212-421-3700.

PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT. Halon gas fire extinguishers. Coast Guard & UL approved. The most effective fire fighter avail. today. Aerosol, w/10-yr. guarantee. If you've never seen Halon work, call for more info & Demo. Jimmy Hayes, Bus: 516-627-5910. Res: 516-248-3899.

TRAILER HITCHES—The most complete Draw-Tite line of Class I & II hitches in stock on Long Island. Sales, installations & service. TOM CASH WELDING, Lake Ronkonkoma. 516-JU 8-6143.

RADAR, Loran, autopilots, VHF, SSB, fish recorders. Sales & service most major brands. Custom installations. MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS INC., 377 Woodcleft Av, Freeport, NY; 516-623-4421.

BOAT TRAILERS: EZ Loader. All sizes in stock. Immediate Del. Priced right. Trailer hitches installed. SEAHORSE TRAILER, Glen Head, NY. 516-676-5313.

COMPASSES—COMPASSES—COMPASSES
Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem Axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-05 B'Way, Woodside, NY. 718-426-7039.

CUSTOM MARINE WOODWORK. No job too small. Tackle lockers, instrument enclosures, consoles, bow pulpits, etc. Interior & exterior repairs & restorations. CUSTOM MARINE CARPENTRY, 516-623-1639.

FUJINON Binoculars 10X70 Marine tested. Waterproof. Like new. $300. 516-271-0226.

FISHING TACKLE

FISH RAY—World's only portable hand-held Sonar. 1.5 lbs. Finds fish or sounds bottom to 99'. Reg. $159.95. Order direct & save $30. $129.95 or for brochure, write: B&I ELECTRONICS, 246 S. Main St., Albany, OR 97321; 503-928-5375.

DEADLY FLOUNDER RIGS
Tangle-free, tandem tied w/special stand-off knot. Used by sharpies. Sprout hooks for more hook-ups. 3/$3.75, incl. p/h. BILL SMITH, 158 Vermont Ave., Bay Shore, NY 11706.

MUSTAD HOOKS & Other Fine Tackle at sensible prices. Free catalog. TERMINAL TACKLE CO., Box 427, Kings Park, NY 11754.

CATCH MORE FISH—with superior designed saltwater rigs. Send for free catalog now! HUDSON TACKLE, Dept. I, P.O. Box 437, Kearny, NJ 07032.

DAIWA Sealine Magforce conv. casting reels, barely used, like new: Model SMF170H, hi-speed retrieve-$70. SMF 250-$50. Daiwa graphite surf-spinning reel, model ST9070, like new. $85. Daiwa Regal Strike Series 15' 3-pc. graphite surf-spinning rod. Mint. Model SK-929-$65. Custom built 11' 1-pc. Lamiglas surf-spinning rod, heavy action. Hardly used-$85. Daiwa 11' 8" 2-pc. surf-spinning rod, model 2168A-$30. John Toro. Eves: 433-8248.

FOR SALE
1 Penn Internat'l 130H w/custom bent butt rod-$900; 1 Penn Internat'l 80W w/custom bent butt rod-$750; 1 Fin-Nor light 50 lb. reel w/custom straight butt, 80 lb. rod-$500; 1 Penn Internat'l 12 reel-$175; 4 Fin-Nor light 50 lb. reels-$275 ea.; 1 Fin-Nor light 30 lb. reel-$250. All equip. in top cond., under warranty & in original boxes. Most purchased new in '85. 516-354-2674.

VERY EXPENSIVE—Very Expensive—Very Expensive. Edelman's is NOT very expensive. See ad on Page 2.

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED: 1980 to 1985 23' SEA OX center console without motor. 718-465-4062.

WINTER STORAGE
Up to 28'. Winterizations. Mercruiser, OMC. Parts; service. Authorized Volvo Penta dealer. HARBOR MARINE CORP., Copiague. 789-8789.

Continued On Next Page

FULLY LICENSED CAPTAIN—water deliveries, boat/navigation instruction; charters & trips. 516-795-4498.

COD RECIPES: 4 easy, taste-pleasing old family recipes. $2. PERRY, 116 E. Mosholu, Bronx, NY 10458.

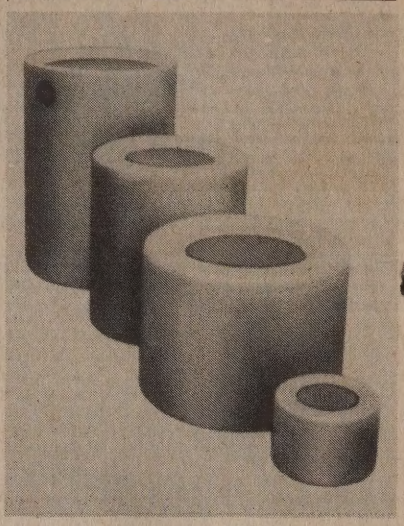
NORTH SHORE TRAP CO., St. James, NY. 516-584-6870. Vinyl coated lobster, crab, eel traps and all lobstering equip.

1 Dz. $9.03 Men's Tube Socks. First quality; size 9-11 w/stripe at the top. Guaranteed 100%. Send check & printed address to: GORDON HANDICAPPED CO., 90 Bradley St., Asheville, NC 28806. You save money. Help people. Tell people. P.S.. 33-12—Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord. Help people; tell people.

CHARTS OF NY HARBOR in stock. Be ready for "Op-Sail '86" BURCK, 526 City Island Av, Bronx, NY 10464; 212-885-1559.

DO YOU like codfishing in New England? Then The Fisherman has a book for you. "Codfishing in New England" w/16 chap., covers both inshore & offshore, from Block Isl. to Kennebunkport, Ma. Price $4 + $.65 post. CT Res add $.25 tax. Send check or M.O. to: THE FISHERMAN, P.O. Box 211, 2 Denison Av, Mystic, CT 06355.

BAYHEAD MARINA: Winter storage, boats & motors. All winter services avail. Factory certified mechanics. 718-525-5724.



LIVE BAIT WELLS, pumps & accessories. For free brochure, send $.25 p/h. THE CADDY CO., 57 Bayonne Av, Dept. E, Central Islip, NY 11722; 516-234-0144.

GOVERNMENT JOBS $16,040-$59,230/Yr. Now hiring. 805-687-6000, Ext. R-3617 for current Federal list.

BOAT UPHOLSTERY, chairs, cushions, seats, panels. Canvas repair. Zippers & plastic windows replaced. Dan, Eves: 666-3326.

LICENSE PLATE FRAME says it for you. "I'd Rather Be Fishing." Non-rusting, hi-impact, black polystyrene w/raised white letters. 1-$4.95; 2-$8.95 + $1 p/h. Send ck or M.O. to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566. Satisfaction guaranteed.

HOUSE PAINTING: Interior & Exterior by Jack "The Painter" Murray. Let us paint while you fish. 516-273-0960.

AVAILABLE AT LAST! Beautiful full color print of artist Gary Patterson's famous painting "Half Day Boat." You won't believe the detail & crazy activities going on aboard. If you've ever fished on party boats you'll really love this print. 18"x24"; looks fantastic framed. Only $9.95 + $1 p/h to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566.

LICENSE PLATE FRAME says it for you—"I'd Rather Be Fishing." Non-rusting, hi-impact, black polystyrene w/raised white letters. 1-$4.95; 2-$8.95 + $1 p/h. Send ck. or M.O. to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566. Satisfaction guaranteed.

WANTED: Weekend Party Boat Mate, Captree. Will train. April-Nov. 516-541-4538.

REAL ESTATE

RENTAL—Florida. Key Largo waterfront 2BR house/ac. Close to Pennekamp Coral Reef Park. Swimming, snorkeling, backcountry & ocean fishing. Week, monthly. After 5PM: 914-356-4297.

RETIRED COUPLE SEEKING one-family house. Cash deal. Walk to shore preferred. Call collect: 1-718-377-4230.

HOLLYWOOD BEACH, FLORIDA
Ocean Queen Motel—rooms, efficiencies. Directly on beach, minutes to charter boats. $25 p.p./day Double Occupancy. Reserv. 800-874-8850.

Display Advertising in the Fisherman call:(516) 725-4200

—CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM—

COPY: (Please Print)

CLASSIFIED RATES: Subscribers—20 cents per word with a 15 word ($3.00) mininum. Non-Subscribers—40 cents per word with a 15 word ($6.00) minimum. Count phone number as one word.

Send with Check or Money Order to:

THE FISHERMAN
POST OFFICE BOX 1994 • SAG HARBOR, N.Y. 11963

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . −0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." −0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	5:50	6:20	6:45	7:00	6:35	7:00	7:20	7:55	9:50	10:25	9:15	9:45	5:45	6:10	1/23
FRI.	6:30	7:00	7:25	7:40	7:15	7:40	8:00	8:35	10:15	10:55	9:55	10:25	6:30	6:50	1/24
SAT.	7:10	7:40	8:05	8:20	7:55	7:20	8:40	9:15	10:40	11:15	10:35	11:05	7:10	7:35	1/25
SUN.	7:50	8:20	8:45	9:00	8:30	9:00	9:20	9:55	11:10	11:40	11:15	11:45	7:55	8:15	1/26
MON.	8:30	9:00	9:25	9:45	9:10	9:40	10:00	10:35	11:45	—	11:55	—	8:35	8:55	1/27
TUES.	9:10	9:45	10:05	10:25	9:50	10:20	10:40	11:15	12:15	12:25	12:25	12:35	9:15	9:35	1/28
WED.	9:55	10:30	10:45	11:10	10:30	11:05	11:25	—	12:55	1:10	1:00	1:20	10:00	10:25	1/29
THURS.	10:40	11:15	11:25	—	11:15	11:50	12:00	12:15	1:40	2:00	1:45	2:05	10:45	11:15	1/30

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	−0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	−0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	−0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	−0 12
Seaside Park	−0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	−0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	−0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	−0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	−0 02
Rehobeth Beach	−0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Democrat Point	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42
Falkner Island	−0 13
Sachem Head	−0 10
Branford Harbor	−0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	−0 08
Milford Harbor	−0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	−0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	−0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	−0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	−0 14
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point, north side	−1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	−0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	−0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	−0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28
Port Chester	−0 09
Mamaroneck	−0 08
New Rochelle	−0 24
Davids Island	−0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	−0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	−0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	−1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	−0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	−0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	−0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	−0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:		RISE:	SET:
THU.	1/23	7:22	5:04
FRI.	1/24	7:21	5:05
SAT.	1/25	7:20	5:06
SUN.	1/26	7:19	5:07
MON.	1/27	7:18	5:08
TUE.	1/28	7:17	5:09
WED.	1/29	7:16	5:10

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:		RISE:	SET:
THU.	1/23	2:33PM	5:47AM
FRI.	1/24	3:32PM	6:38AM
SAT.	1/25	4:38PM	7:22AM
SUN.	1/26	5:46PM	7:59AM
MON.	1/27	6:56PM	8:30AM
TUE.	1/28	8:06PM	8:56AM
WED.	1/29	9:16PM	9:21AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
1/10	1/17	1/26	2/2

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	2:35	8:45	2:55	9:10
Fri.	3:25	9:35	3:45	10:00
Sat.	4:15	10:25	4:35	10:50
Sun.	5:05	11:15	5:25	11:40
Mon.	5:55	—	6:20	12:05
Tues.	6:45	12:35	7:15	1:00
Wed.	7:35	1:25	8:05	1:50
Thurs.	8:30	2:20	8:55	2:40

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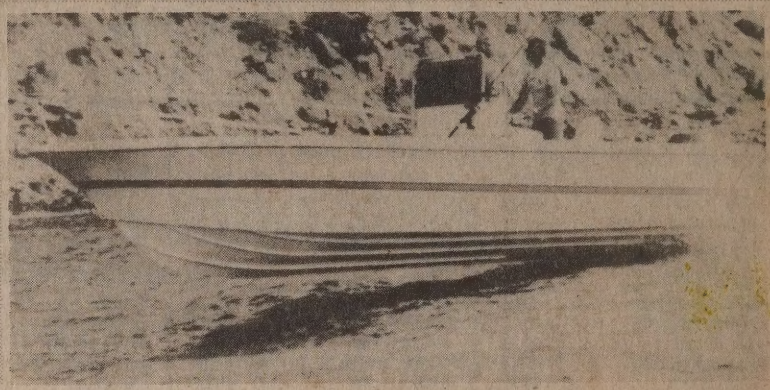
Canyon Runners Get Back In Two Hours In Up To Five Foot Seas!



Full Foam and Unsinkable!
Two to four times the fuel efficiency!
Double the Standard fishing boat speeds!

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